

Times.10

An abstract painting of a person, possibly a woman, wearing a dark jacket and blue jeans. A hand is resting on their hip. The background is a mix of dark and light colors, with some vertical lines.

Your Magazine of Choice

November 1999, Vol. 7 Number 3

Youth,
Sex
and
Abstinence

Page 16, 17

Identity

Pg's 18, 20, 43

Health

Pg's 22, 26, 40

Fun

Pg's 8, 12, 28, 36

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anything but
temptation
itself...**

Oscar Wilde

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Times .10
Your Magazine of Choice
Vol. 7 Number 3
November, 1999
Edmonton, Alberta

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The Front Page

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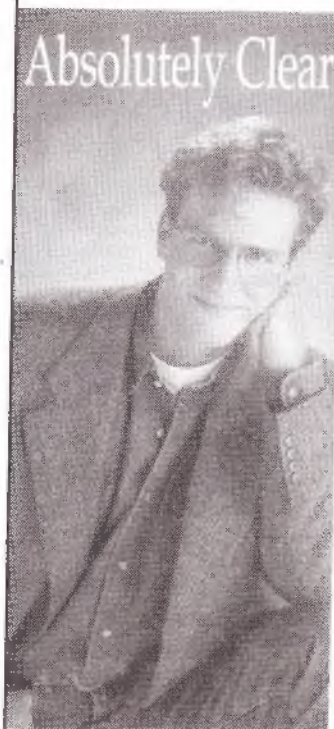
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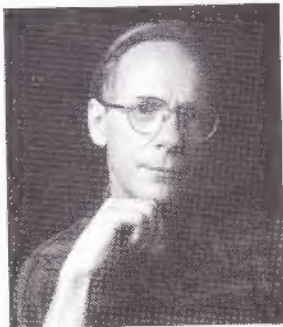
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From the Editor

by Dennis Cambly



Life and the Candle

I sit with a single candle burning in my living room. There are many times when I sit quietly and do this simple thing. When I am thinking of the fine friends that life has given to me and the friends life has taken away. I recall simple sounds of laughter or a voice I no longer hear in my daily travels. Then the voice of friend calls out and my mind moves down the road. Sometimes I dream of a better world than the one we dreamed of on those hillsides. There is no denying that we did inhale a lot of smoke. Soft sounds of silence fill the room and I feel gratitude for all those people in our communities who have given most of their lives to everyone. At times it appeared that they had kept so little for themselves that they appeared lost in the shuffle and often times forgotten. Silence. Then the pictures of you, and you, and you, appear with a smile and a friendly glance. Silence. The candle flickers slowly in the dark giving its friendly glow and a quiet reminder that there is light in the darkness. The silence is golden.

Burning slowly, the candle reminds me of a simpler time. Although I am not certain that those times were all that simple. Those were the days that I had to hide who I really am from anyone I came in contact with each day. A familiar memory passes by in the dark room and lights up my mind to silly things we did for fun. We certainly had no problem coming up with ideas to have fun that was not hurtful to anyone. Perhaps it was the safety of friendship that made everything all right during those early days. As my mind wanders, I look toward the candle and find it brings me back to the days when our minds were hidden deep within a dark cave. Some of us wandered out into the light and others stayed frightened of the shadows on the walls. There was no way to explain to them that it was going to be safe as long as we stayed together. Was it a sin to think of the world as one tiny village in all this space? How simple it seemed to work and play together towards making it a better place.

Then the candle flickers higher and the word gratitude comes to mind. That simple process of being grateful for the things that we have in place now. You are not forgotten as you passed this way once and never returned. What did it take to spend a few hours sitting in this room with only the light of a candle?

You are that candle to me and I am forever grateful for spending these few minutes with you.

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The Court of the Wild Rose

Ed or Daryl at
425-SWAN

FYI: News & Notes from the HIV/AIDS Battlefront

"AIDS Conference to Discuss Rapid Pace of Disease in Asia"

Boston Globe Online

The 5th International Conference on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific will begin Sunday in Kuala Lumpur, focusing on how to control the AIDS epidemic in the region. While many of the world's HIV-infected individuals reside in Africa, Asia may be the next area with an explosion of AIDS, with about 7 million people in the Asia-Pacific region now living with HIV or AIDS. The Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS noted that in Asia, HIV is primarily transmitted between heterosexuals and through injected drugs. The conference will also discuss ways to overcome cultural taboos regarding sex and condom use that have hampered HIV prevention efforts.

"Fighting Tuberculosis"

Financial Times

A collaboration between scientists from the United States and Russia is working to design a new biochip technology that will help in identifying particular strains of tuberculosis (TB), with the hope of improving the efficacy of antibiotics. TB takes a long time to treat, and antibiotic-resistant strains have developed as some patients discontinue their medications before the infection is completely eliminated. The biochip is a device that can isolate single strands of genetic material for easy identification. After identifying the particular strain, doctors can decide on which antibiotics would be

most efficient in treating the infection.

"Health Department to Discuss HIV-Exposure Notification"

Albuquerque Journal Online

In New Mexico, the state Department of Health was slated to hold on Wednesday a statewide teleconference to discuss the protocol for notifying people they may have been exposed to HIV. Carol Horwitz, an HIV/AIDS planner with the department of health, notes that while the state usually informs the sexual partners of those who test HIV-positive, New Mexico does not require partner notification for HIV. Tim Wolfe, manager of the department's HIV prevention effort, explained that the notification process can include drawing blood to see whether that individual has HIV or referring him or her to a testing site, as well as counseling about the individual's relative risk and prevention measures. Wolfe added that some people become angered because health workers cannot reveal who named them, noting that "there's a general feeling that it can be subject to misuse."

"Net Filters Will Block Safe Sex Information"

Australian Associated Press

In Australia, AIDS educators are worried that new federal guidelines for the Internet could restrict information pertaining to safe sex and sex education. The new laws, which are set to take effect next year, restrict access to violent or sexually explicit material. Victorian AIDS Council peer education officer Kenton Miller noted that the restrictions would

also limit safe sex and rape crisis information and could make it difficult for rural residents who do not have easy access to other resources to obtain such data.

"Many Physicians Fail to Recognize Symptoms in HIV-Infected Patients"

Reuters Health Information Services

French researchers performed a cross-sectional survey of 290 HIV-infected patients to compare reported symptoms with the treatments prescribed. The study, published in the October issue of the Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, determined that physicians treating HIV patients need to be better at identifying patients' symptoms. Often, the doctors paid attention only to measurable physical symptoms such as fever or weight loss, granting more attention when the patient became sicker. The scientists also noted poor physician recognition rates for symptoms associated with treatment side effects and for symptoms of treatable conditions, including sleep problems and diarrhea.

"Drug Cuts Amount of Hepatitis B Virus in Blood"

Reuters

Glaxo Wellcome's lamivudine can lower levels of the hepatitis B virus in the blood, according to a new study sponsored by the drug maker. In the study, which appears in the current issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, 52 percent of patients given lamivudine responded to the drug, versus 23 percent of the patients treated with a placebo. Among the 66 patients who were given

lamivudine, the level of the virus was undetectable in 44 percent, while the virus was undetectable in only 16 percent of the 71 placebo recipients. Viral levels climbed when the treatment was halted.

"Teen Sex Report Puts Spotlight on Georgia Town"

Washington Times

Tonight's episode of the PBS series "Frontline" will focus on a 1996 syphilis outbreak in which 17 Rockdale County, Georgia teenagers were infected and 250 more received medical treatment. The documentary, which features interviews with teenagers who discuss their sexual behavior, has upset some community leaders and parents. Some of the teenagers report having up to 100 sexual partners or participating in group sex parties. Local leaders are upset about the content, especially after the May shooting in the county, which injured six classmates of T.J. Solomon, the gunman.

"Ryan White Foundation Is Shutting Down"

Philadelphia Inquirer

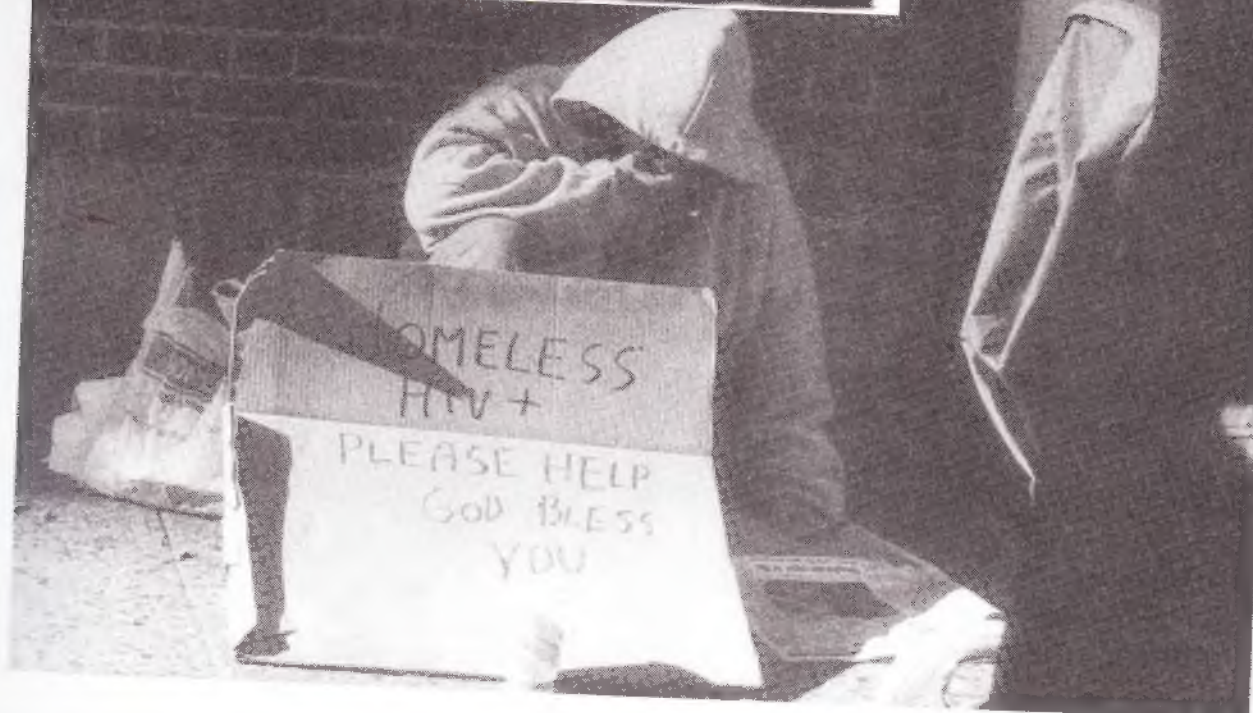
The Ryan White Foundation will close this month, the result of decreasing donations. Jeanne White-Ginder, the founder of the organization named for her son, who died nearly a decade ago after contracting HIV through contaminated blood-clotting products, said she now plans to join AIDS Action. There, she will lead a new project that aims to educate young people about HIV and to lobby for more federal funding for AIDS programs.

16th

Annual AIDS Benefit

NOVEMBER 11th

We still need your help



Thank You

On Saturday, October 16th, 1999, the following businesses opened the doors of their to help raise funds for people living with HIV or AIDS for the Holiday Season. The Garneau Theatre with its showing of Beefcake started the night with a glimpse into our past. Through the night, The Roost, Buddy's Dance Pub, Down Under, Secrets Bar and Grill along with the Hemp Cafe all put efforts into special events and shows. The Other Place in Red Deer also assisted with the raising of funds for this event. In total \$2500.00 was raised, all of which will go directly to Living Positive. We at Times 10 give many thanks to all the owners, staff and the many performers who participated throughout the evening. Here on these two pages we can only give you a little bit of the action that took place all evening. Hundreds of people will be very grateful that you took the time to remember them as they live with HIV or AIDS.

We are not finished yet! We have one more item, which will run as a silent auction viewable through the month of November. Mike from the Hemp Cafe was able to obtain a photograph of Wayne Gretzky and have Wayne sign it during his recent visit to Edmonton. The colour photo is of Wayne scoring the goal that broke the Gordie Howe record on goals scored. The back cover tells the story of where to view the photo and when the final auction will take place. All of the proceeds will also go to people living with HIV or AIDS for the holiday season in December, 1999.



No Name Fundraiser V



Capital City Politics



Myths

By Laurie Blakeman - Liberal MLA

I firmly believe that you can handle just about anything given enough notice. As baby boomers, we're used to being the generation of change, but there are some old assumptions or myths that we're still buying into.

Myth #1 My life expectancy will be the same as my parents.

Right now, we can expect some of our parents to live to be 90 years of age. We, on the other hand, can expect to live to be 100 plus. That means we're going to have to seriously reconsider the type of services we will demand in our senior years and who exactly will pay for those services.

Myth #2 I will retire at 65 years of age.

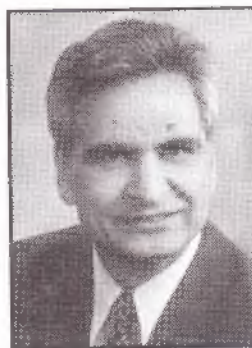
If our life expectancy is increasing, then retiring at the age of 65 means we have to plan on saving enough money to last us for 35 or more years. Is that really possible? More than that, most of us when we retire at 65 will not be the frail seniors that our grandparents were. I mean, consider this: Jane Fonda is 62 years old and no one would dare consider her old or frail. In short, most of us at 65 will still be able to contribute to society and anything less is a gigantic waste of intelligence and talent.

Myth #3 My family will take care of me as I age.

As baby boomers, both men and women participated fully in the workplace. That meant that children were cared for outside of the home. What makes us think that as seniors, when we become ill, we will automatically expect our children to quit their jobs to care for us? More likely than not, they will be looking for non-traditional ways to care for us whether that be home care workers visiting us in our home or having us go to day-cares for seniors.

So what does this all mean for the baby boomers now? Now is the time for us to make the decision about what we want for our future and to start thinking about what services we want and who will pay for them. Let us know what you think by attending the Seniors Forums being held across the province. Or write your Member of the Legislative Assembly and let him or her know what you want. We are the generation of change and we will be changing the face of retirement.

If you would like more information about this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact the Constituency office at 10042-116 Street, Edmonton, AB T5K 1V6 Phone: 414-0743, Fax: 414-0772 or e-mail: blakeman@oanet.com



Tories Attempt

Another Dirty Trick

By Raj Pannu - ND MLA

It's been a while since the Legislature was in session – the Tories have a big aversion to public scrutiny – but MLAs will be back on November 17th.

And once again, human rights issues will be at the forefront of political debate. This time around, it's Bill 38 the *Constitutional Referendum Amendment Act*. Existing legislation requires a provincial referendum to be held on amendments to the constitution. Bill 38 deals not with constitutional amendments, however, but with a very different issue.

It's part of the government policy on gay and lesbian issues announced in March that before the Notwithstanding Clause is ever used, a referendum will have to be held. One of the catches is the exception to the rule – Bill 38 allows the government to use the Notwithstanding Clause without any referendum in order to restrict the

definition of marriage
to heterosexual
couples

While the New Democrats are in favour of giving same-sex couples the right to marry, it's not a hill to die on in this case

What I find particularly offensive in Bill 38, and what we really take issue with, is the idea that the individual rights of minorities can be subjected to the whims of a bare majority in a referendum. There's a reason why the Charter of Rights and Freedoms was implemented in the first place – to ensure that individual rights of people in minority groups are protected and guaranteed.

Referendums are also expensive. Based on the elections for Alberta's wannabe, wait-in-the-wings Senators, it could cost around \$4 million dollars just to run referendum. I also question how democratic a referendum really is

Complex political debates are rarely a simple 'Yes' or 'No' proposition and the best solutions don't always lie in such a question. And especially when referenda deal with fundamental issues of human rights, the population can be unnecessarily polarized and the debate can become vitriolic and intense

Instead of expensive,

polarizing and divisive referenda, consultation and consensus building can be equally important and democratic, not to mention cheaper.

And while we are opposing Bill 38 as it progresses through the Legislature, Pam Barrett and myself will be pressuring the government at every turn to do what should have been a long time ago – take serious steps to protect make gay and lesbian Albertans fully equal.



More Government Failures

*By Hugh MacDonald
MLA*

The Klein government prides itself on being an excellent manager of government affairs. It frequently applauds itself for efficiency and

rapid debt repayment. However, the government fails to realize that there is more to good management than the financial bottom line.

Case in point: the government's treatment of its public service. As any good manager knows, the strength of an organization is its people. Any government intent on being a good manager will treat its teachers, nurses and other public servants with the respect they deserve. So how does the Klein government treat its most valuable asset? On this point it fails miserably

In 1998/99 the government increased compensation for its deputy ministers (its highest-ranking department managers) by more than 23%. In comparison, the Alberta Union of Public Employees, representing over 18,000 public servants has been offered a 1.0% increase, not even enough to cover the cost of inflation. The double standard is obvious and appalling in almost every government department. For example, the Deputy Minister of Education received a 27.9% increase this year; a raise from \$124,868 to

\$146,701 while teachers received a 4.21% raise. The Deputy Minister of Health received a 21.5% raise, from \$132,713 to \$161,310 while nurses won a 3.0% increase

No one is saying that deputy ministers and other managers are not a valuable and necessary part of government – they are; however, the frontline staff is at least equally valuable. It's the social workers with huge caseloads, the nurses with unending line-ups of people in emergency and the teachers in hopelessly overcrowded classroom that have held our system together. They should be recognized and compensated appropriately

It's time to end the double standard of inflating deputy minister salaries by amounts higher than what some public servants make in a year and then offering teachers, nurses, and others the crumbs left on the table

Alberta Liberal Labour
Critic

Greater Edmonton Gay & Lesbian Community

Support Groups and Services

Affirm United

(United Church of Canada) meets at McDougall United Church 10025 - 101 St. Last Saturday of the month at 7:30 - 9:30 PM. For more info, call Larry at 429-4269 or Phyllis Tess at 474-0862

Alberta Pflag

Meets the last Sunday of each month at Knox-Met Church. The Church is located at the corner of 109 Street and 83 Avenue. Meeting time is 2 PM. Contact Ellen by phone at 465-3057 or by e-mail: shownish@compuserve.ab.ca

Alcoholics Anonymous

A.A. is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Call 424-5900 for times and places of Gay and Lesbian meetings.

AXIOS - Edmonton

AXIOS is an international organization of Eastern Orthodox and Eastern-Rite Catholic Gay and Lesbian Christians. Our mandate is to promote a greater understanding of human sexuality and spirituality within the Eastern Christian tradition. The AXIOS monthly newsletter is available via the Internet. Contact Dushan at 454-8449 for more information.

Badminton League

The badminton league is designed for men and women of all ages and experience. Players who are interested can participate in Calgary's Western Cup Tournament during the Easter Long Weekend. For further

information, please contact Bruce at 453-1244 (email: cwoxyteddy@powersurf.com) or Dennis at 471-4409.

Bare Naked Boys Club of Edmonton - BNBCE

A naturist group of gay men in Edmonton interested in social nudity. This is not a sex club. Men of all ages welcome. Call Fred at 469-7231 for information.

The B.E.A.R.S. of Edmonton

A group for hairy men and their admirers meet the last Friday of the month 9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. at Boots. Or write us at 47 10024-82nd Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6E 1Z3. Our email address is bears@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca. Our Website is http: www.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/bears.

Brethren Mennonite Council

For Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual concerns. This is a support community for gay, lesbian and bisexual Mennonites and friends. Contact Tim at 434-5360 or Garrett at 423-1725 or e-mail: garrett.epp@ualberta.ca

Dignity Edmonton

This Edmonton chapter is a support community for gay and lesbian Catholics and friends. Contact Bernard at 451-1794 or Joseph at 481-4218.

Classics

A social group for lesbians over 40. Meetings on the first Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. Call Donna at 456-1008.

Edmonton PFLAG/T

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. Edmonton PFLAG/T promotes the health

and well-being of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month at GICCE. For information, contact Lynne at 462-5958 or e-mail: pflag@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Edmonton Prime Timers

We are a chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide, an international social organization for mature gay and bisexual men and their younger friends over 21. Our activities include theatre nights, video nights, pub nights, Sunday brunches, and dining out. We meet the second Sunday of every month (except July and August) at 3:00 PM at the Unitarian Church of Edmonton (12530 110 Ave.) for a social period, a guest speaker and an optional supper at a restaurant. For more information, contact Peter at 426-7019. Ron by e-mail at mercury@planet.com.net, or better yet, join us at our monthly meeting.

Edmonton Rainbow Business Association (ERBA):

Gay men and Lesbians in business and our non-gay friends. Join us, share your business knowledge, learn more, make new friends, network... in positive, proud space where being yourself is the norm. Call Bill Faulkner for more information 422-6207. Call for information on our BBQ on Sept 14, or our general meetings. Membership \$25.00 yr.

Edmonton Vocal Minority

A mixed voice chorus join together in a common love of music and a desire to build greater spirit of unity among

in the lesbian/gay community. If you are interested in singing with FVM or working in the areas of promotion, staging or front of house concerts and events, please contact us at P.O. Box 12091, Main Post Office, T5J 3L2 or telephone 988-4620. E-mail: evm@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Equal=Alberta [Edmonton]

Equal Alberta [Edmonton] is a group of concerned citizens working to ensure gay and lesbian Albertans remain protected under Alberta's Human Rights Legislation and to ensure equal treatment for all Albertans. Call (780) 488-3234. Fax (780) 482-2855. By Email: equal@alberta@hotmail.com or visit our Website: www.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/gleece/equal.htm

Feather of Hope Aboriginal AIDS Prevention Society

The Feather of Hope was founded on a need to provide AIDS education and support to Native People in Alberta. Through education and the development of communities in partnership, it is hoped that the spread of AIDS will be lessened. Volunteers are very important to us. If you can help, or would simply like some more information, call 488-5773.

Free-To-Be Volleyball Association

The Association aspires to provide opportunities for our community to play volleyball in a fun atmosphere. There are three levels: 1) Recreational - contact Christopher at 423-1430. 2) Intermediate Skills - contact Darcy at 423-1430. 3) Tournament -

contact Andrew at 435-9379
Alternatively email
andrew@planet.net for details

Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton (G.L.C.C.E.)

The centre contributes to the well-being of Edmonton's gay, lesbian and bisexual community through informational social support services and its social information line. The services offered by the centre include an information line, telephone referrals, library, and drop-in peer support counselling. Further information is available at 488-3234. E-Mail: gleece@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Gay Men's Wednesday Coffee Evenings.

At 7.30 p.m. Breadstick Cafe at 10159 - 82 Avenue. This group fosters a safe, comfortable environment for all its participants. At the same time, it discourages attendance solely for sexual relations. Join us to relax, share experiences, and establish friendships. There is no age limit. Tel. 780-463-2098 (Graham)
E-mail: gwwatts@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca
Website: www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Castro/5598

Gay Men's Outreach Crew (GMOC)

GMOC is a peer education initiative for gay/bisexual men that works toward preventing the spread of HIV among men who have sex with men, advocating for healthy lifestyle choices, and addressing social and health concerns by fostering self-esteem and gay positive attitudes. For information on GMOC workshops and other activities, please call Lou at (780) 488-5742.

Gaywire

Edmonton's only radio show about gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered lives airs on CJSR FM88.5 Thursdays between 6 and 7 pm. Featuring news, local and international features and community events

Guys Going Dancing

Tired of dancing alone in a crowded club? We meet every Friday from 10:00PM at Buddys Dance Club, 10112 - 124 Street for companionship and fun on the dance floor. To join us contact Graham 463-2098 or e-mail: gwwatts@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

HIV Network of Edmonton Society (HIV Edmonton)

HIV Edmonton works cooperatively with all those organizations in Alberta and across the country who are working to help limit the spread of HIV infection. HIV Edmonton utilizes a best practices Harm Reduction approach in Health Promotion, Advocacy and Support, as well as, maintaining an extensive Resource Centre for use by health practitioners, health promoters, community organizations and those infected and affected by HIV. For more information on the activities of HIV Edmonton, please call (780) 488-5742 or contact us by email at mail@hivedmonton.com. Visit our website at www.hivedmonton.com

Illusions Social Club

A social club for Crossdressers, Transsexuals and their supporters. We hold two socials each month, one on the second Thursday and one on the third Saturday. For more information write to Illusions Social Club. Our mailing address is Box 1852, Edmonton, T5K 2P2 or phone 488-3234 on Tuesday evenings to talk to someone person to person.

Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose

The mission of the Court is to raise funds for charities and other organizations which provide direct services to gay and lesbian individuals. Meetings of the Society are held at 8 PM on the last Wednesday of the month at the Garage. Our website is at: <http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Castro/5598>

www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/5904

Interfaith Association on AIDS Edmonton

The purpose of this association is to sensitize local faith communities and their leaders to the unique spiritual and emotional needs of those infected by HIV/AIDS. The following faith communities are included: Anglican, Baha'i, Baptist, Beth Shalom Synagogue, Lutheran, Metropolitan Community Church, Roman Catholic, Temple Beth Ora, Ukrainian Catholic, Unitarian and United Churches. Phone 448-1768 for more information. Email: mail@hivedmonton.com

Lambda Christian Community Church

We are a non-denominational evangelical Christian church. One of our primary goals is to provide a safe and affirming environment for all who desire to worship God. Lambda Community Church, 11148-84 Avenue (Gareau United Church) Edmonton, T6G 0V8. Call 474-0753. Weekly Sunday service at 7 p.m.

Liatrix Society

An informal social group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and straight people who enjoy gardening and outdoor nature activities. For information see www.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/gleece/liatrix.htm or contact liatrixsociety@hotmail.com or William at 474-7328.

Liaison Committee, The

In June of 1993, Edmonton Police Service and the Gay and Lesbian community met for a liaison to promote an atmosphere of understanding and mutual respect. For more info, call Edmonton Police Service at 423-4567 or contact the committee at 421-2277.

Living Positive

Emotional, spiritual and psychological support is

available through Living Positive to all those affected by HIV infection. We offer strong, loving, confidential support. We also meet weekly and share our mutual experiences. Living Positive is entirely directed by and for people who share a common diagnosis of HIV+. Peer counselling, hospital visits and a speakers bureau are also available through our society. Phone 488-5768 or e-mail: mail@hivedmonton.com

Long Yang Club Edmonton Chapter

We are an International organization for Gay-Asians and non-Asians. We are the World's largest with chapters in 28 cities and 11 countries. Come and Join US! Contact us via Graham at 463-2098.

Lutherans Concerned: Edmonton

We are a spiritual community for lesbian, gay, bisexual and straight people. Lutherans Concerned gathers monthly for worship, sharing, and friendship. We offer individual support and a safe space for our own spiritual questions. Call Mette at 461-5571, or write P.O. Box 11495, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3K4 e-mail: luthcon@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Metropolitan Community Church of Edmonton (M.C.C.)

We are a local church within the denomination of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Our major focus is to the defranchised of society. The UMCC allows anyone to feel a part of the Christian Community and to claim our place in God's Universe. Services are open to all. We worship on Sunday evenings at 7:15 at McDougall United Church - South entrance. Please feel free to join us! Call 429-2321 for more.

Continued on page 14 13

Support Groups and Services

Continued from page 13

information E-mail
revbev@compusmart.ab.ca

M.C.C. Youth Group

Provides a safe environment for gay/les/bi/trans youth to express themselves freely, explore sexuality and to experience god's/goddess' healing and wholeness. How we intend to achieve this goal is through social, recreational, educational and cultural activities. We are meeting on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. If you have any further questions please E-mail Pam at pamjoe@telusplanet.net. Our phone number is 429-2321

Northern Chaps

Edmonton's Leather - Fetish club for Gay, Lesbian, and straight men and womyn was established six years ago. We strive to educate the rest of the community through workshops, staged demonstrations and events in order to heighten awareness. Northern Chaps meets at Boots & Saddle on the first and third Friday of each month at 9 PM. For information, phone 488-3234. The e-mail address geoffw@compusmart.ab.ca

Northern Titans

Northern Titans International Bowling League meets every Saturday at 5:00pm, September to April, at Pins & Cues Bowling & Billiards Centre, Southeast corner of Westmount Shopping Centre, 111 Ave. & 135 St. For more information, please call Garry Billett at (403) 426-6311

Outback Trailblazers

Formerly known as the River Valley Cyclists. The organization promotes recreational and outdoor pursuits within the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgendered communities of Edmonton and surrounding

area. Future activities may include hiking, canoeing, camping, horseback riding and any other suggestions for activities are welcome. For more information, please call Dan at 440-6710 or Peter at 434-4712 or email at danzjeep@canet.com

OUTreach

OUTreach is a university-based organization for gays, lesbians and bisexuals interested in an academic atmosphere. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. on campus; main floor of the Athabasca Hall. Topics vary from week to week. Additional information is available by calling 988-4166. E-mail outreach@gsu.srv.ualberta.ca

Team Edmonton

Team Edmonton - Gay Games Association is set up to provide an opportunity for person interested in participating in the Gay Games through fund raising. If you would like to be involved with Team Edmonton, call Johann at 437-0687

The Alternative Bears of Edmonton

Our group, the Alternative Bears of Edmonton, is a purely social, and "fun" group of gay and bi men who are, or are fans of, bears. Primarily a swim and movies type of group, we get together weekly on Saturday nights 11:00pm to 1:00am for a late night adult swim. For info people can visit our webpage at www.homepages.gayweb.com/~alt_bears

Yours Mine Ours And Us

Parenting group(peer support) for lgbt parents, partners. Meets every second Tuesday in the Bloomsbury Room, Orlando Books, from 7 - 9 p.m. Drop ins welcome. Small contribution for room costs. Issues of parenting, coming out to kids, discipline etc. Call Liz at

Massiah Counseling Services
415-5434 or Garry Billett at 426 6311. Not a therapy group.

Youth Understanding Youth

We meet every Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton, Suite 103, 10612-124 Street. A social support group for anyone under the age of 25 years. For more information, or to give your input email yuyedm@hotmail.com

Visions - Unitarian Church of Edmonton

We are an open, liberal religious community that values diversity and celebrates our Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered members. With us you are encouraged with open mind and heart to form your own set of personal beliefs. Sunday services at 9:30am and 11:15am, 12530 - 110 Ave. Ph 454-8073. For more information please call Knsty at 433-5843 or Mike at 482-6582

Womonspace

We are a social and recreational society for lesbians in Edmonton. We hold monthly dances and other activities. Look for our monthly newsletter around town or phone 482-1794. Visit our website www.gaycanada.com/womonspace/

Writers Club

There are several successful gay writers in Edmonton. Many more write as a hobby just for the fun of it. The goal is to establish a Writers Club, which will encourage and support the serious writers of the future and at the same time increase the pleasure of the hobbyists. The Writers Club will meet bi-weekly on Mondays at the Hemp Café, 10332 - 81 Avenue, from 7:30PM to 9:30PM. For more information contact Graham 463-2098 or e-mail

gwatts@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Regional Organizations

Freedom Fort McMurray

A social Support group for Gays/Lesbian/Bisexual & Transgendered Persons and their friends. For information on upcoming events and inquiries into membership please call our Freedom line (780) 799-GAY1 (4291). To speak directly with a welcoming committee member call between 3-6pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays

Grande Prairie

Gay and Lesbian Community Box 1492
Grande Prairie, AB T8V 4Z3
e-mail: pellen@gspr.ab.ca

Northern Rainbow Youth

A support group for High School students. Our email address is nry13_18@hotmail.com and our web page is www.mhenlev.com/ashenry. Any high school student can get more info by contacting their school guidance counsellor. If you want more info yourself, then you can call Crystal at (780) 790-0775 at work

High Level Gay and Lesbian Support Group

The High Level Support Group offers info on suicide prevention, monthly meetings, provincial events, gay organizations, information on a place to meet and free counselling provided by High level mental health for both gay people and parents of gay children. Our web site address is www.geocities.com/westhollywood.park/7702 or write us at P.O. Box 3434, High Level, Alta, T0H 1Z0 or call 780-926-3989

Out North

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Jeff Palmer

Also starring:
Drew Damon,
Tristan Paris &
Tom Chase

Drew Damon,
Tristan Paris &
Tom Chase

Also starring:
Thom Barron,
Derek Cameron &
Kristian Brooks

Thom Barron,
Derek Cameron &
Kristian Brooks

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Youth, Sexuality And Abstinence

Some questions on what we are not teaching and why?

*By Robert Wm. Smith
HIV Edmonton*

At a June workshop on *Empowering Youth to Confront HIV AIDS*, attended by representatives of several AIDS Service Organizations from the three Prairie Provinces, a great deal of discussion took place around programming and initiatives aimed at and coordinated by youth. In retrospect, I am conscious of the lack of discussion around abstinence as an alternate HIV prevention strategy. In the majority, discussion about prevention centered on sexual behaviours, intravenous drug use, body art, and steroid use in the youth population.

In recent weeks, I have been questioning the implied meaning of and the principles behind voluntary abstinence from sexual activity. There are many levels of sexual activity, mutually, couples of all sexual orientations participate in a variety of activities that may or may not include insertion. (By

insertion I am implying the use of a penis in the performance of sexual intercourse.) Lesbian couples provide another interesting perspective to "going all the way" when

male and female, two males? How about mutual masturbation? At what point does a kiss "go to far"? Does abstinence make allowances for the furtive grope of a breast



insertion involves either digital, oral or prosthetic. Given this list of factors, is performing oral sex considered abstinence? Is anal intercourse between a

and/or genitals?

Even I, when presenting to a group, either youth or adult, don't give abstinence the deliberation it deserves.

I have always looked at abstinence as being a propaganda message of the fundamentalist and failed to see some of the other issues that help form the principles guiding abstinence. We as Health Promoters have to include room for actually feeling good about one's self, as well as the variety of issues around self esteem, acceptance, and sociability of youth and viewing sexual behaviour as a spiritually based physical experience. By spiritually, I refer to the principle that one's body is the home of one's spirit, one's self. Some view the realm of sexual expression as the ultimate gift of love and abstain from all levels of sexual activity. For some in the pursuit of a more enhanced spiritual life, sexual activity is seen as a distraction (or even as a vehicle for spiritual experiences) and refrain from means of developing cognitive and emotional abilities.

Another concern is the influence of television, music, and definitions of sexual behaviours. The challenge is to promote abstinence and music,

maintain in television and
media and to exploit in
space is a formidable
philosophical challenge to
those who have made a
commitment to remain
pure

As a society, do not
discuss the
principles of abstinence
from sexual activity; we
must provide adequate
information allowing youth
to make informed choices
about the level of their
sexual activities and the
level of comfort in their
sexual activity. We are
addressing the external
influence of
commercialized sexuality

to provide our children with
the tools to identify as sexual
beings; and those tools do
not remotely consider
principles of self and/or
spiritual identity. HIV/
AIDS campaigns are
notorious for utilizing sub/
explicit sexual activity
between "ideal bodies" as
a means of promoting safer
sex activities

And this brings me back to
Calgary. It is important
that all involved in the
process of *Empowering
Youth to Confront HIV
AIDS* reflect on how we
reverse the discussion
around abstinence as an
alternative to sexual activity

and as a means of
prevention of the spread of
HIV and other STDs. The
message should avoid a
judgmental approach while
exploring the quality of
relationships both within
and outside of the sexual
experience.

As stated above, there is a
consensus that all initiatives
aimed at youth should have
the direct involvement of
youth at the inception,
development and
coordination levels. HIV
Edmonton is very interested
in forming a strategy and
planning committee around
the development and
implementation of

programming targeting
youth in the areas of sexual
behaviours, intravenous
drug use, body art, steroid
use and abstinence. We
are also keen on having
that committee composed
primarily of youth from as
diverse a population base
as is realistic. If you or
anyone you know in the
youth population is
interested in participating
in the exploring of
programming possibilities
and the overseeing of
initiatives designed by that
committee, please contact
Robert Smith at HIV
Edmonton, 488-5742.

Harold Smith

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What is the Ross Armstrong Memorial Trust Fund?

The fund was started on July 1, 1986 in memory of Ross Armstrong, the first person in Edmonton to become a public spokesperson on HIV / AIDS related concerns.

Ross died in Toronto, on Canada Day, 1986 of complications due to HIV diseases. The fund was developed to provide HIV positive individuals with a gift of money. It was felt by Mr. Armstrong that life enhancement gifts to people living with HIV was something of importance and the committee has always tried to reflect his wishes.

A working committee was made up of representatives of both HIV Edmonton and Living Positive in the fall of 1996 to address the issues of too many requests, not enough money and the difficult decisions involved with

allocating funds. It was acknowledged during these meetings that dispensing cash alone was not adequately dealing with the issue of enhancing the quality of life of an HIV positive individual. It was a temporary Band-Aid solution at best for the fund could never keep up with the number of requests it was receiving and could not consistently keep the program going as the fund was always running out of money.

In June of 1998, the Ross Armstrong Trust Fund Committee decided to stop accepting request for "cash" and moved towards implementing a Health Promotion / Life Enhancement Program. In September of 1999 we started distributing multivitamins to people living with HIV. Registration forms for these, and any future programs, are available at the offices of HIV Edmonton, Living Positive, Feather of Hope, clinics such as U of A, STD, Kindred House,

Streetworks, etc. They must be completely filled out and then submitted to either HIV Edmonton or Living Positive for verification of positive status. Multivitamins are now available every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month between 4-7 p.m. at the office of HIV Edmonton.

This year the fund is also sponsoring Christmas Hampers for people living with HIV and their partners/families. These hampers will include life enhancement items such as movie passes, gift/food certificates, etc. to add some cheer to the Holiday Season and the New Year.

People who are HIV positive and registered with the fund are asked to write a letter requesting a hamper before NOVEMBER 30, 1999.

No requests will be considered after this date. In this letter, it's important to let the committee know the total number within your family, including children. Please address letters to the ROSS ARMSTRONG TRUST

FUND COMMITTEE and send them or drop them off at either the office of HIV Edmonton or Living Positive. All registrations and letters will be held in the strictest confidence.

The Ross Armstrong Trust Fund is supported solely through the memberships of HIV Edmonton, Living Positive, and donations made directly to the fund at this time. We would like to continue providing health promotion and life enhancement to people living with HIV in the New Year and the committee welcomes any donations to help us with the Christmas Hampers and to continue and expand the programs we can offer in the future.

Monetary donations can be made to the ROSS ARMSTRONG TRUST FUND c/o HIV EDMONTON, #600, 10242 105 Street, Edmonton, AB. T5J 3L5. Phone (780)488-5742. All donations are eligible for a tax receipt from HIV Edmonton if requested.

Dwayne Pasnak
Chairman Ross
Armstrong Trust Fund
Committee

"Y2K" ONE MORE TIME!

By Michael Phair -
Edmonton City Councillor



"Y2K, the Millennium, Year 2000"—these are all terms guaranteed to make us turn off! The end of this year has been so hyped that it comes close to causing nausea. However, I am going to venture one more time into the mine field of Y2K!

Nearly a year ago after much deliberation the City of Edmonton wisely decided that instead of concentrating only on Y2K, it would be best to focus on preparing citizens for any unexpected emergency. Many Edmontonians vividly remember the tornado that struck northeast Edmonton and most of us watched eastern Canadian cities have to respond to massive ice storms. Therefore the City has gone about the business of planning for any large emergency or disaster that might affect residents at any time.

It has been, of course, extremely important that the City review all of its computer systems to ensure they will experience no problems when the date clicks to 2000. Such work has led to the entire replacement of the system that activates and controls the LRT as it was not Y2K compliant and the system could not be fixed. Even more important is the extensive review that has been done on the communication and dispatch systems for ambulance, fire and police services.

Obviously these systems are key to responding to emergencies and must be there for people who have a serious medical, police or fire emergency.

Besides the preparedness that is being undertaken by the City, it is really important that citizens do some very simple things to make sure that they are ready for anything that might happen unexpectedly and that people can be as self-reliant as possible. The City is suggesting that you think moderately—what would you need to manage for up to 3 days on your own? Are there medications that you need? How about a little cash? Tinned food, packaged cereals, bottled water and juices are easy to have around. (Sorry—I know that most of us who are sophisticated would prefer pate and artichoke hearts!) Because of our climate an extra blanket and warm gloves and boots could be useful and don't forget such things as candles, matches and a flashlight. If you have a pet, other than your partner, make sure you have extra pet food. In many circumstances having a battery operated radio will be useful to help you keep informed.

It is just common sense to plan ahead for unexpected emergencies. Y2K has given the City a good excuse to update and improve its emergency plans. Edmonton is now in a good place to deal with any natural or man-made emergency like a flood, severe blizzard or power blackout. A little planning and preparation on every Time.10 reader's part will mean that you too will be ready for the unexpected.

As New Year's Eve turns into 2000, I expect to be doing what I have done for the last number of years. I will be joining many of you and thousands of other Edmontonians at Churchill Square yelling, singing and enjoying the fireworks of the First Night Festival—and I will not be worried because I will be ready if anything unexpected happens!

G.L.I.S.N.
(Gay and Lesbian
Information
Services Network)
is in the final
stages of setting
up a 24 hour
7 day a week
phone service
for both
Gay Youth
and
Gay & Lesbian
Information
Services

Real People and
not answering
machines will be
taking the calls.

(A Times 10 Publications Society
Production with assistance
from Corporate Sponsors)

Living In Leather

By Miss Erika

Congratulations Edmonton NLA

The National Leather Association (Edmonton Chapter). NLA:E was founded this month and with that international recognition of a society that promotes all aspects



of the leather lifestyle. The NLA (Edmonton) can be reached by mail at
Box 35015
Oliver RPO
11229 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2R8
Or by web at
www.fcusplanet.net/public/garyp/nla.html
or be email
nlaedmonton@canada.com
NLA Edmonton welcomes all people of any race, sex, denomination, color, creed or sexual preference. We are completely pansexual.

WHERE TO FIND US

Our host meeting place is the Roost, located at 10345-104th Street. The Roost has graciously allowed us to meet, socialize and hold functions in their club. Membership with NLA Edmonton gives you free access to the club at all times except special events. Admission to the Roost without membership is \$3/week nites and \$5/weekends. Fetish nites (social functions) will be strictly social nites where we encourage NLA:E members to wear their favorite leather/fetish wear and mingle with the other patrons of the Roost. These will be held on every second Friday of the month.

MEETINGS

- * Business Meetings: First and third Thursday of every month beginning November 4th, 1999. Meeting start at 8pm.
- * Leather Nites the second Friday of every month starting at 9pm.
- AGM to be held on January 20, 2000
- All EVENTS at the ROOST.

OUR NEXT

MEETING- Nov. 4, 1999

Agenda for next meeting:

- * Discussion on how to promote NLA:E through other means than the web site.

- * Ideas for upcoming meetings and event
- * Distribution on by-laws

Other organizations exist in Edmonton which are either small discrete groups or maybe you are looking in the wrong place. Each month we will spotlight a group for those who want more.

THE B.E.A.R.S.

The B.E.A.R.S. of Edmonton are a non-profit social group for gay hairy men and their admirers 18 years of age or older. We are not affiliated with any Radio or TV station, Magazine or Media Outlet, nor any Sports or Athletic Organization in Edmonton or the world. (This was on their website and I liked it.) Locate them at

The B.E.A.R.S. of Edmonton
C/O. G.L.C.C.E.
Post Office Box: 1852
Main Post Office.
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada, T5J 2P2
Fax: (780) 482-2855
url: <http://www.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/~bears>
email
bears@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

B.E.A.R.S. Social Calendar

Saturday, November 13th
9:00pm - 11:00pm
BUDDY'S PUB, 10112 -
124th Street

**BEAR YOUR
LEATHER WEEKEND**
A social event and private party for

Leatherbears and Leathermen!

Friday, November 19th
Meet and Greet at the ROOST, 10345-104th ST
10:00pm - Midnight

Saturday, November 20th

Private Party by invitation only

Details/Invitations will be given out on the 19th during the Meet and Greet at the Roost

Friday, November 26th
9:00pm - 11:00pm

THE ROOST - 10345-104th Street

B.E.A.R.S. Members can show their Membership card on this night for FREE admission to the Roost!

Saturday, December 11th

9:00pm - 11:00pm

BUDDY'S PUB, 10112 -
124th Street

There will be no bar night at the Roost in December
celebrate Christmas
Holiday

FINDING YOUR WAY

... feel lost? You
... fetish is absurd.
... people will think
... strange I did
... think I am
... them I like
... leather, erotic
... play or many of

the other things I indulge in. I met someone one day in a chat room and by chance she lived in Edmonton. We met and she told me about the community that exists for all. Its safe, sane and consensual. There is Lashes, EOS, Northern Chaps, B.E.A.R.S. and now NLA:E. Each group offers support, education and a comfort zone to get know people of like minded ideas. We are not strange, weird, sick or perverted. We are open-minded, accepting, and non-judgmental of others likes and opinions. We welcome those who want a safe environment to learn, make friends and play. Leather is what you

want it to be - it is what you believe it to be. There are books on leather history, the lifestyle, beliefs and leather sex. What you choose is your decision. You aren't wrong - you aren't alone. There is support out there. groups that will teach, and friends that will understand you.

Each issue of Living in Leather is going to feature a Lesson in Leather LESSON 1

Dungeon Etiquette

At some point you will have your experience at your first play party. Basic common sense plus respect will help you enjoy this experience.

1. Dungeon Monitors

2. If you have questions about a scene wait until it is completed and aftercare has occurred.
3. Be aware of getting in the crossfire of floggers and whips. Give people space.
4. As a standard rule there is NO sex, drugs or alcohol.
5. No photography or video cameras are allowed. You can be assured no one is secretly taping you.
6. Ensure you have safe words and have negotiated with a TOP or bottom the rules and safety. If you have medical concerns NOW is the

time to talk. State your limitations. Be honest.

7. If watching - be respectful and courteous. Don't touch things that aren't yours.
 8. Cleanliness is strictly enforced.
 9. If bloodsports, wax or fire is part of your entertainment ask the DM if it is allowed and where.
 10. No smoking in play areas is usually customary.
- PLAY. HAVE FUN. SAFE. SANE AND CONSENTUALLY**

Questions or comments
Email MissEnka:
Swtnmermaid@home.com



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Speaking Of Normal

By Liz Massiah, Msw,
RSW

Recently I became part of a team of helping professionals working at the Edmonton Garrison with members of the armed forces who are struggling with trauma and stress. In conversation with a

ch a p
w h o
w a s
looking
at a
large
stack of
photos
of guns.
m y

reaction was "Why would anyone want a gun?" He looked at me and said "To kill with, of course.". "Do you think that that's a good thing?" I asked. Without a pause he said "That's what the military is for.". Then I asked him about women in combat roles and he scoffed, commenting on the stupidity of the notion that women can kill just like a man.

Now I know I am one of "those feminists", as well as being one of "those lesbians", and I know that as such, statements like that start to make me "shirty", as my father used to say. And, of course, the issue goes further: how come so many women are police constables, do as well on exams, etc as their male counterparts, and yet seldom get promoted; or how come so many organizations are powered by women and run by men, how many female folks are there on the United

Way Board, on the Telus Board, the GLCEE Board, the EVM Board, or the ERBA board

On the other hand, though, the therapist part of me looks at these questions and relates them to the larger picture: specifically, the complex, fascinating and frustrating faces of gender.

How do we notice gendering in our lives, our relationships? The lesbian community is often perceived as being more as more equal in our relationships, with the differences between male and female roles being blurred somewhat. But what about all the issues surrounding "butch" and "femme"? What about "tops" and "bottoms"? What about the significance and hoo-ha around being penetrated during anal intercourse for men, something women take for granted during vaginal intercourse, birthing, using tampons, etc? What about tensions over including male children in lesbian groups? Or excluding lesbians who hang out with men as "not real lesbians", while thinking that it's great that gay men will socialize with dykes? Or what about the look of astonishment on a male customer's face when he and I met on the stairs of Pride Video? (I suggested to Dennis

that he needs to put up a "Danger: Women May Be Present" sign). If all of that isn't related to the gendering of roles in our community (which some might say is a microcosm of gendering in the big wide world in general), it certainly looks like it.

Sometimes it seems to me that although we have worked hard to claim our different-ness, to be safe in the world as lesbian gay folks, and that as a result we seem to think we are therefore very different, that difference is something of a fallacy. Some

would say, in fact, that gay men (for example), are extremely similar to their straight counterparts in that gay men tend towards non-monogamy because of biology, in exactly the same way straight men, who tend to hang around while the kids are young and then take off to scatter some more seed (as it were), do. Then there are those that would suggest that lesbian relationships take the female "traits" of care-giving and nurturance away from the husband/children focus of

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nurturance of each other, to the detriment of sexual activity (hence "lesbian dead bed"). And then there's the very gendered notion that men, all men, are helpless in the face of their urge to have sex, yet somehow women have control. I'm not suggesting that any of these is the actual case: they are, in fact, huge generalizations and there are always exceptions and variations. But these thoughts are also expressions of the wondering I'm doing about the way in which complications arising from gender roles and predispositions can sometimes seem to transcend sexuality. In other words, maybe we're all a little more alike than we might want to admit.

Did you know that our notions of how males should be and how girls should be show themselves even before birth? Research has indicated that if a parent knows what gender the expected child is, comments will be clearly shaped to respond to that gender. If the child kicks, the comments will be about potential football heroes. If it's known that the baby is a girl, there will be more baby talk and the mom's belly will be touched more. Older research tells us that if boy and girl babies are not gender identified in the nursery, staff treat them the same, but as soon as the gender identifiers are put in place, the boys are responded to more slowly and less frequently, and are generally held less than the girls. And let's not even get started on pink and blue. It would seem that all things considered, we are up against pretty pervasive and powerful gendering traditions, since at such early ages our males are taught to be strong, unemotional, "not to be sissies, not be a girl", and that being tough is part of the male deal.

or ideal. The examples are legion.

... and isn't it interesting, going back to the image that triggered this article, that the word "legion" sometimes refers to a r m y

Have you ever wondered why men dress in uniform, why a large group of men, in their dark suits, white shirts, and slash-of-colour ties, all seem to be in uniform ... and how many women feel it important or necessary to dress in feminized versions of that same uniform? Or, to look at it another way, why is it that some men and women like to dress in uniform as part of being sexual? Is it all part of how we permit ourselves to support and concede our own personal strength to power imbalances, even violence?

More on the connection between gender, violence and parenting in another column, as many of you know, there is now an ongoing support group for lesbian and gay parents, called Yours Mine Ours and Us, and since I attend every second meeting to provide some "structured" input, the gathering of useful information regarding lesbian/gay parenting is now on my ongoing list of "useful things to try to notice and remember."

But for now, let me leave you with this thought: would you respond in the same way to this column if it had been written by a man? Or what if all the images of sexy men in Times 10 were changed to pictures of women ... and if all the images of caring and nurturing were changed to men?

Comments and responses are always welcome ... we look forward to hearing from you.

(All ideas are those of the author. They are not intended to replace consultation with an accredited, registered professional.)

Pool Top 20

Compiled by DJMikee

1. "MAMBO No 5" - LOU BEGA (BMG)
2. "IS IT LOVE/TAKE ME TO THE DISCO" - CHILLY HIFLY (ATTIC)
3. "SET US FREE" - CLUBLANDERS (UNI)
4. "FEEL GOOD" - SWIFT (NUMUZIK)
5. "GALAXY 2000" - WAR (BMG)
6. "FEEL THE FUNK SUGARFOOT RECORDS" - VARIOUS (SUGARFOOT)
7. "CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT YOU" - CLUB CULTURE (ATTIC)
8. "CANDA" - BROOKLYN BOUNCE (BMG)
9. "BABY FEEL MY" - PATRIA (POP)
10. "WHAT YOU NEED" - POWERHOUSE ft DUANE HARDEN (TYC)
11. "2 TIMES" - ANN LEE (UNI)
12. "BOOM BOOM BOOM" - VENGA BOYS (ISBA)
13. "U DON'T KNOW ME/FLOWERZ" -

ARMAND VAN
HELDEN (UNI)

14. "MY LOVE IS
YOUR LOVE" -

WHITNEY
HOUSTON (BMG)

15. "CANNED
HEAT" -

JAMIROQUAI (SONY)

16. "DRAGONFLIES" - POVI (NETTWERK)

17. "GENIE IN A BOTTLE" - CHRISTINE
AGUILERA (BMG)

18. "HERE WE GO" - FREESTYLERS
(MAMMOTH)

19. "FEEL WHAT I'M FEELING" - MAX ZIMMS
(POP)

20. "COME" - MARTHA WASH (BMG)



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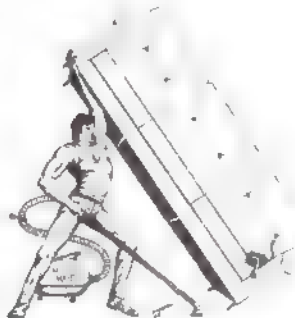
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Well first of all, I had the opportunity to host the CD release party for "Viral Extinction" a while back, but alas, I

electronic soundscapes. It's the whole hot & cold, dark & light thing. I don't know where to begin, every track here is outstanding. I suppose my faves are "Overload", "Where Angels Go To Die" & "Cyberchrist". This CD is a must for anyone who's into Elektro/Darkwave music. Hell, even if that isn't your bag, give this disc a try. It's very catchy, and sure to open a lot of ears to this style of music.

basically a remix album with some live & new tracks. Absolutely created for the dance floor. Hell a great Multi Media track on this as well. Release time is November, with a CD release party @ Rebar. Look for a brand new full-length CD Mid 2K. Bauhaus- Gotham (Metropolis). For those of you fortunate enough to have experienced the Bauhaus "Resurrection

Four" last summer, this double CD and video companion will serve as a memoir of your long agonizing trip to Vancouver to see the FANGtastic four. OK, some of you went else where, but I digress... This should be in stores on Nov 9, and I know it'll be worth every penny. The memories will come rushing back for all that

witnessed the event, and will undoubtedly make others wish they were there.

Also coming soon, is Electropolis 2 (Metropolis) London After Midnight- Violent Acts of Beauty (Metropolis) as well as a new album from goth kings (?) The Cure. Most of these CD's will be

available in town at Haxed upon release.

Below are my top 10, (count em, I dare ya) check them out, they are well worth the listen.

Triumph- Abscess (Gashed!)
Overload- Flesh Field (Inception)
Honour- VNV Nation (Wax Trax)
Terrorvision- Gentorturers (Cleopatra)
Naked Birthday- Switchblade Symphony (Cleopatra)
Depravation- Urceus Exit (Independent)
Starfuchers Inc.- Nine Inch Nails (Nothing)
The Longing- Imperitive Reaction (Pcndragon)
Fatalist- Frontline Assembly (Metropolis)
Carnival- Project Pitchfork (Metropolis)
Decipher- Velvet Acid Christ (Metropolis)
Jasmine And Rose- Clan Of Xymox (Metropolis)
Revenge- Trust Obey (Re-Con)

*Till next month, thanx for the memories Wayne, Hugs & Kisses, Welts & Wishes

nik



snoozed. Things were crazy at the time, and a listening party was the last thing on my mind. But if I could turn back time... I love this disc. From beginning to end, this is the complete package. Fills my dance floor and toys with my emotions. I've always had a soft spot for female vocals back by harsh

Alright, there are some notable releases coming soon, so Ill briefly blab about them. Voice Industrie- Transmissions (Interdimensional Industries). Yes kids, you saw right, a new album from Edmontons electronic sweethearts. Well sort of. It's

My Monthly Neurosis

This column was going to be about SEX but circumstances changed and though still peripherally tied to everyone's favorite topic, it's going to diverge into a darker and more serious realm. I'm 22 now, which means I was born in 1977. By the time Sex Ed started for me in school, AIDS was already the big news the media. By the time I finished junior high, condom use was already advocated as the near surefire way of preventing HIV transmission. When I came out in 1993, I already knew what HIV was and how to make sure I never had to deal with it, because really, no one wants to have to deal with it. For me and for most people around my age, we all missed the big fear, back when no one understood what was happening, and when the finally did understand, when it was already too late. We missed burying friends and family. We missed the painful good byes that made AIDS so real, and so what we are now is a generation of people that knows about AIDS without really having AIDS as a reality.

While on one hand, that's a positive sign that by the early - mid 90s when we were coming out, we were educated about HIV/AIDS. On another hand though, missing out on all the tragic loss means that we just don't really understand a) what it was like to be alive then and b) what the big deal really is. That is, we don't understand until something happens that brings it close to home.

The reason I am so crazed about this right now is that a friend of mine recently had a close call. He learned that someone he'd had unprotected

sex with a year or so ago is positive, and was positive at the time. But he had no sense of how REAL AIDS was, and so he says "well we were both drunk and didn't think about using condoms cuz we were carried away in the heat of the moment, and besides, if he knew, he should have insisted." In other words, he gave a lot of explanations for why he showed up at his house at 2:30 in the morning, shaking and crying and wanting to plunge headfirst into a bottle of vodka. This is what it took to make it real for him. A queasy stomach, clammy hands, nightmare after nightmare after nightmare, and a frustration that last call and happy hour were so far apart, because drinking was the one way to find oblivion before the next phase of his reality set in, the coming-of-age of any sexually active person in the 90s: the HIV test. The clinical questions about who he'd done, and what he'd done with them, and the suggestions that he should definitely do things differently in the future. And then the staring at the ceiling tiles as the nurse took his blood, and the nausea returning like a slap in the face as he wondered if there was something in that blood that would mean life would change, no matter how advanced the medication, no matter how decreased the stigma. Life would never be the same. If the results were negative, then a quick prayer of thanks would only precede an anti-sex phase that would quickly fade back into the same old routine, though hopefully that remembered fear would tear the condom out of the wrapper the next time the moment got too hot. If the results were positive, well, then there'd be a newfound

sense of making every moment count, because cocktails can only get you so far and there's no way he wants to be just another statistic.

I'm telling you this, with his permission, because it completely freaked me out. And I want it to freak you out too. AIDS hasn't gone away just because you weren't out and about in the 80s doesn't mean you're immune. Sex still comes with no guarantees. I know I promised this column would be light and fun and easy-going, but some neuroses just aren't that way. I could've written about bitchy drag queens or holier-than-thou relationship-queens or the way shooter sales need to occur far more frequently on Friday nights. But instead I got up on my

soap box and preached you a sermon on safer sex. It's a sermon you really can't hear too much. I wish could end this on a happy note, but as this issue goes to press, my friend is still sitting at home, biting his nails, waiting. His results aren't in yet. The waiting, he says, is the hardest part, because the dread, the fear, the terror aren't a fair payment for a night he can barely remember now. It would've taken them an extra ten seconds to put on a condom 10 seconds for safety compared to 10 days of waiting. You do the math.

Join me in neurosis - it may be crazy but it's fun:
my_neurosis@hotmail.com

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The Sexiest Night of the Year

By Joe Achtemichuk

Have you been dreaming about a trip to the Australian Mardi Gras in Sydney, or the Black and Blue in Montreal? Save your money, we have a party that encompasses elements of both and then some. Electric Lava Masquerade Ball is the next generation of adult entertainment and is about to set Edmonton on its ear. Our goal for the evening is to wind you up, so you'll go home and have great sex.

On Saturday, December 11, the Arts Barn will undergo a transition, from theatre playhouse to adult entertainment playground. For starters, you'll need your best masquerade costume. Come in anything that makes you feel sensual from classic wear to more extreme leather, uniform or fetish wear. Dress up in a tuxedo or evening

gown or dress down in jeans and a T-shirt. You can create an elaborate and unique masque or get one at the door. The evening is a voyeur's dream and if you want to be a little wilder anything goes. All staff and volunteers at the event will be dressed up in costumes, so don't be shy. Dress up! Like we say, come out and "Be Who You Aren't".

Electric Lava is welcoming a number of celebrities for the weekend. Micheal Turner, author of *American Whiskey Bar*, *Hard Core Logo* and *The Pornographer's Poem* will join the party. The Globe & Mail bills his new book, "An intelligent novel that neatly bridges the gap between the play of experimental



fiction and the pleasures of narrative." Micheal is looking forward to coming to Edmonton and even has a few surprises for the evening.

Another erotic writer who may make an appearance at Electric Lava is Evan Solomon. *Crossing the Distance*, his

first novel is already raising eyebrows across the country. Evan can also be seen hosting CBC Newsworld's "Hot Type". Discussions are well underway to bring Evan to Electric Lava.

To this point I have titillated, now let me take you to the next level. Two stages will be set up, one in the sub hall and one in the main hall. The evening will start out with a human buffet by the BDSM community and silent auction viewing. The party will continue to include fetish fantasies, a fashion show, and both live and silent auction.

A silent and live auction will take place in the main hall, with hotel romance packages, sensual artwork, and other sexy gear. Enhance your love life by bringing some erotic treasures home with you. A website is being set up to view all items before the auction.

A fashion show of designer, leather, fetish, chain mail fashions, and body piercing will take place throughout the night and then on stage. Local designers and models will strut their stuff to the delight of all onlookers. You can enjoy fashions by Cherry Bomb, Battlewear, Vorstellen, Cleavage of Doom, Industrial Resolution, UAoch Designs, and much more.

The fetish fantasies start on the mainstage and will then move to the sub stage. All of the fetish shows will be

coordinated by Sir Micheal. If you have any fantasies that you would like to live out on stage, the shows are interactive.

On the mainstage, Edmonton's best live performers and impersonators will entertain you, with some special surprises from the out of towners. Funky Pickle Pizza will be on location selling pizza. A temporary tattoo booth and a meet you match board, just in case you come alone and are looking for a date. That's just the confirmed events. Stay tuned for any updates. Keep an eye on Northern Light Theatre's website (currently under construction - www.accessweb.com/nlt/) for new info.

At Midnight the main hall will turn into a wild masquerade dance party. Music and DJ's supplied by the Roost, with fantasies continuing in the sub hall. Don't worry about partying too hard and Driving home. Those party patrons who have partook too much can use free programs such as those provided by Keys Please and Operation Red Nose to get home.

So there you have it, a rough outline of Electric Lava. A fund-raiser in disguise for Northern Light Theatre. Tickets are \$20.00 in advance. Obviously, this is an 18+ event, so if you are an adult, call 471-1586 for tickets. Buy your tickets now or you'll be waiting in line, begging for someone to leave.

Warning! Electric Lava contains some nudity, and scantily clad performers!

PRIDE 2000

Not much to report thus far on Pride 2000. We have selected the dates for Pride 2000. Pride 2000 will run the week of June 10 to the 17, 2000. The parade will be held on Saturday, June 17.

Our committees will be getting into full swing in the next two to three months. We welcome everyone to come and join us and take an active part in Pride 2000.

The next meeting will be November 16, 1999 at 8:00 p.m. at GLCCE

About the Front Cover and the Artist

I recently graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting. My work used to be primarily landscapes but has changed to themes and subject matter that is controversial in nature, such as breast cancer and paintings with strong gay content. This particular painting 'Encounter' 46" x 61" oil on masonite was part of a series titled 'You never know what is behind a closed door' which depicts moments in the lives of people — snapshots of human encounters (all sexual orientations) that are usually kept private

The viewer bears witness to people from unusual angles as if they are looking through a lens placed somewhere in the scene, just outside the picture frame. Most of the paintings have therefore taken on a closely cropped narrative effects where the story is thus played out by either the viewer, the characters, or perhaps both. If you are interested in contacting me about my art please email cmilroy@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca or call Marguerite at (780)459-4915

Womonspace Activities

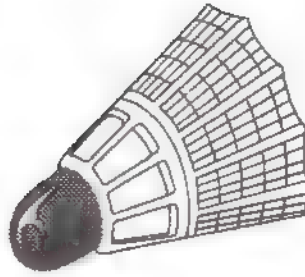
Our next event will be a craft and art fair (11 A.M. - 4 P.M.) followed by a non-smoking mixed dance (9 P.M. - 1 A.M.) on November 20 at Inglewood Hall, 12515 - 116 Avenue.

Womonspace fifth annual craft and art fair (11 A.M. - 4 P.M.) followed by a non-smoking mixed dance (9 P.M. - 1 A.M.) on November 20 at Inglewood Hall, 12515 - 116 Avenue. Call 482-1794.

Badminton League

We are a group trying to get re-established playing at the Rosslyn School ...The idea to revive a badminton group in Edmonton spawned when several of us in Edmonton were approached by compatriots in Calgary. They were looking for some badminton players for a tournament they were organizing. Without an established network of badminton players in Edmonton, it was difficult to even start to find players. Several years ago there was another badminton league in Edmonton. Unfortunately, when several core members moved away and the regular gym was no longer available, the league folded. In hiatus for a time, it was time to try to revive the group.

The badminton league is designed for men and women of all levels. You may be an experienced player or a novice. In any case, you are welcome.



Location: Rosslyn Elementary/Junior High School, 13215 - 113A Street,

Time: Monday from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Dates: Oct 25, 1999 to May 15, 2000 (The

school has reserved some dates when the gym is not available.)

Cost: \$40 per person for the season

Contact: Bruce at 453-1244 (after 1pm) (email cwbyteddy@powersurfr.com)

You can start spreading the word to anyone (players and supporters) you think that may be interested

The Western Cup Tournament in Calgary (next one is March 31 - April 2, 2000) includes badminton now. This is a fun weekend worth attending. Come on out to practice and get ready for the next tournament or come out just to have some fun.

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Breaking Away

You've heard of travel for business and travel for pleasure, but have you ever considered them together? Many companies make it their business to design specialized travel packages for consumers, designed to meet a variety of interests. These interests include musical performances, physical activities, sports, education, and pretty much anything else that would interest you. If you have a defined interest that you need to travel to experience, then chances are there is a specialized tour package that is right for you.

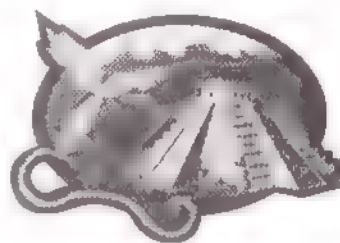
The specialty packages that you will probably run across most often is those dedicated to physical activity. Many companies offer these types of tours, and they come in a variety of different physical interests. Some of the more common ones out of Edmonton would include white water rafting in Maligne Canyon, mountain climbing in the Rockies, hiking along the BC coast, or sking in Banff. While some of these packages offer reasonable rates for above average accommodations, others are built around camping or hosteling and often can include providing your own food. Either way, as long as you pick the one that best serves your interest and comfort level, both serve as a great way to meet lots of people with similar interests.

Those travelers looking for a specialized tour that provides educational value may be surprised at the myriad of choices that are available. Examples would include World Expo's, volunteer programs, pilgrimages such as the Canterbury Tales pilgrimage, and religious packages. It is even possible to obtain a package to another country to learn the language of that country. The majority of packages specializing in educational tours will include a defined itinerary of some type, with set accommodations and transportation. Some such as those for volunteer programs may involve a much less organized schedule. If you are considering one of these educational type packages, make sure that you choose a credible organization to ensure your safety and that you get what you want out of the trip.

If you are a sports enthusiast, you know that there is nothing better than watching your favorite teams in action live and in person rather than on TV. Specialty Packages along this line are also available to you. No matter what city that the sporting event happens to occur in, if you want to see it live, chances are that it is possible. Some of the events that packages are often tailor made for include the Superbowl, the World Series, the Stanley Cup, and the Grey Cup. It is even possible to watch your favorite golfers

live, wherever they may be, with the case of a golf package. It may be helpful to know that most of these packages will include your accommodations as well as your transportation and tickets to the event, but will only include the nights of the event taking place. If you want to make a week's holiday out of the trip, you may have to add on the extra nights at the hotel. The good news is that most of the tour companies will offer the extra nights at a reasonable rate. Please keep in mind, however, that this is not always possible.

One of the more obscure specialty packages available



is those involving music. These packages come in a wide variety according to personal musical tastes. Small one or two day packages to see a musical group are a sensible alternative for a weekend getaway, such as those offered to see Elton John or IN SYNC in Winnipeg or Calgary. Week long packages to see Broadway musicals and theatre performances can also be found, providing you with both a get-away and a first rate theatre performance without the worry of not getting tickets to the show that you want to see. Provided that you use a reputable tour company, tickets for the concert, musical and theatre performances are usually good to excellent tickets as they are bought in advance by the Tour Company. One other form of musical type

specialty packages that you may not have thought of is those that involve travelling with your favorite radio DJ's, such as from Power 92 or CJSN-FM. These packages can provide a very fun way to unwind while at the same time allowing you the opportunity to get to know the people behind the voices that introduce some of your favorite songs on the radio every day.

As you can see, no matter where your interests lie, there is probably going to be a specialty package that is right for you. Whether it's white water rafting down a raging river, seeing a favorite musical group or sports time live, or learning a new language in its natural environment, one specialty package can take care of all of the different travel arrangements you need in one simple step, making your trip much more worry free.

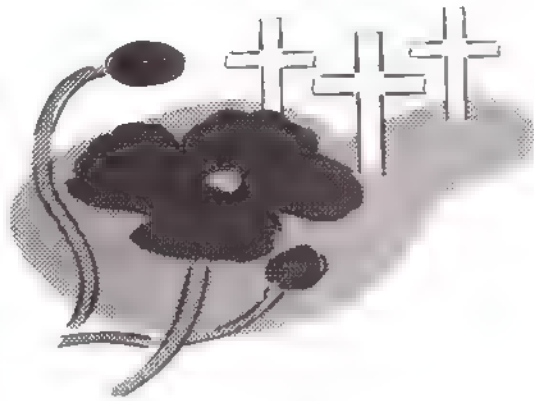
Jacy Dobrich is a Travel Consultant with Harold Smith Travel in Eaton Centre. If you have any questions regarding this article or any other travel related inquiries, please call Jacy at 488-4712.

Travel Trivia - What specialty travel package offered by several gay & lesbian tour operators involves travel to Sydney, Australia and takes place once per year?

Answer - Sydney Mardi Gras

Jacy Dobrich &
Robert Gabelmann

Remembrance Day



November 11, 1999

Gay Mayoral Candidate Tom Ammiano

Supervisor Tom Ammiano filed appropriate papers with the Registrar of Voters for qualification as a candidate for Mayor of San Francisco. Ammiano will be discussing the reasons leading to his decision to run and specifically his choice to become a write-in candidate

The Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco Sunday night service has become a weekly unofficial gathering place for the city's gay community. For Ammiano, the service provides an opportunity to define his views, give information, listen and lead the community he serves as

an openly gay elected official

Coming together each Sunday night as individuals, and as a community, underscores the importance we place on both our spiritual and our community values," said Rev. Jim Mitulski, the church's senior pastor

Co-Pastors of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco are Rev. Jim Mitulski and Rev. Penny Nixon. Assistant Pastor is Rev Karen Foster. With over 500 members, it is one of San Francisco's largest and most active churches. The Sunday evening service is another example of how the church has served the spiritual needs of San Francisco's gay and lesbian people for over 30 years.

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Building A Dam

Dear Mr. De Vries

SUBJECT: DEQ File No. 97-59-0023; T11N, R10W, Sec. 20, Montcalm County

It has come to the attention of the Department of Environmental Quality that there has been recent unauthorized activity on the above-referenced parcel of property.

You have been certified as the legal landowner and/or contractor who did the following unauthorized activity: Construction and maintenance of two wood debris dams across the outlet stream of Spring Pond. A permit must be issued prior to the start of this type of activity. A review of the Department's files shows that no permits have been issued.

Therefore, the Department has determined that this activity is in violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, annotated.

The Department has been informed that one or both of the dams partially failed during a recent rain event, causing debris and flooding at downstream locations. We find that dams of this nature are inherently hazardous and cannot be permitted.

The Department therefore orders you to cease and desist all unauthorized activities at this location, and to restore the stream to a free-flow condition by removing all wood and brush forming the dams from the stream channel. All restoration work shall be completed no later than January 31, 1998.

Please notify this office

when the restoration has been completed so that our staff may schedule a follow-up site inspection. Failure to comply with this request or any further unauthorized activity on the site may result in this case being referred for elevated enforcement action. We anticipate and would appreciate your full cooperation in this matter. Please feel free to contact me at this office if you have any questions.

Sincerely, David L. Price
District Representative
Land and Water Management
Division

RESPONSE

Dear Mr. Price
Re: DEQ File No. 97-59-0023, T11N, R10W, Sec. 20; Montcalm County

Your certified letter dated 12/17/97 has been handed to me to respond to. You sent out a great deal of carbon copies to a lot of people, but you neglected to include their addresses. You will, therefore, have to send them a copy of my response. First of all, Mr. Ryan De Vries is not the legal landowner and/or contractor at 2088 Dagget, Pierson, Michigan—I am the legal owner and a couple of beavers are in the (State unauthorized) process of constructing and maintaining two wood "debris" dams across the outlet stream of my Spring Pond. While I did not pay for, authorize, nor supervised their dam project, I think they would be highly offended that you call their skillful use of natural building materials "debris." I would like to challenge your department to attempt to emulate their dam project any time and/or any place you choose. I believe I can safely state there is no way you could ever match their dam skills, their dam resourcefulness, their dam ingenuity, their dam persistence, their dam determination and/or their dam work ethic.

As to your request, I do not think the beavers are aware that they first must fill out a

dam permit prior to the start of this type of dam activity.

My first dam question to you is: (1) are you trying to discriminate against my Spring Pond Beavers or (2) do you require all beavers throughout this State to conform to said dam request? If you are not discriminating against these particular beavers, through the Freedom of Information Act I request completed copies of all those other applicable beaver dam permits that have been issued. Perhaps we will see if there really is a dam violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, annotated.

I have several concerns. My first concern is—aren't the beavers entitled to legal representation? The Spring Pond Beavers are financially destitute and are unable to pay

for said representation—so the State will have to provide them with a dam lawyer. The Department's dam concern that either one or both of the dams failed during a recent rain event causing flooding is proof that this is a natural occurrence, which the department is required to protect. In other words, we should leave the Spring Pond Beavers alone rather than harassing them and calling their dam names.

If you want the stream "restored" to a dam free-flow condition—please contact the beavers—but if you are going to arrest them (they obviously did not pay any attention to your dam letter—being unable to read English)—be sure they are read the Miranda rights first. As for me, I am not going to cause more flooding or dam debris jams by interfering with these dam builders. If you want to hurt these dam

Continued on page 42

...through uncertainty to new possibilities...

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- ▽ depressed, anxious..?
- ▽ are we awful parents?
- ▽ why can't I stop ...?
- ▽ can I survive my teenagers?
- ▽ what did I do to deserve ...?
- ▽ is my sexual behavior 'normal'?
- ▽ and ...and Or?

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parenting group for lesbigay families
groups for gay men, groups for women

ELIZABETH MASSIAH,

MSW, RSW

passionate about our community and our pride

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Large Donation of Valuable Books

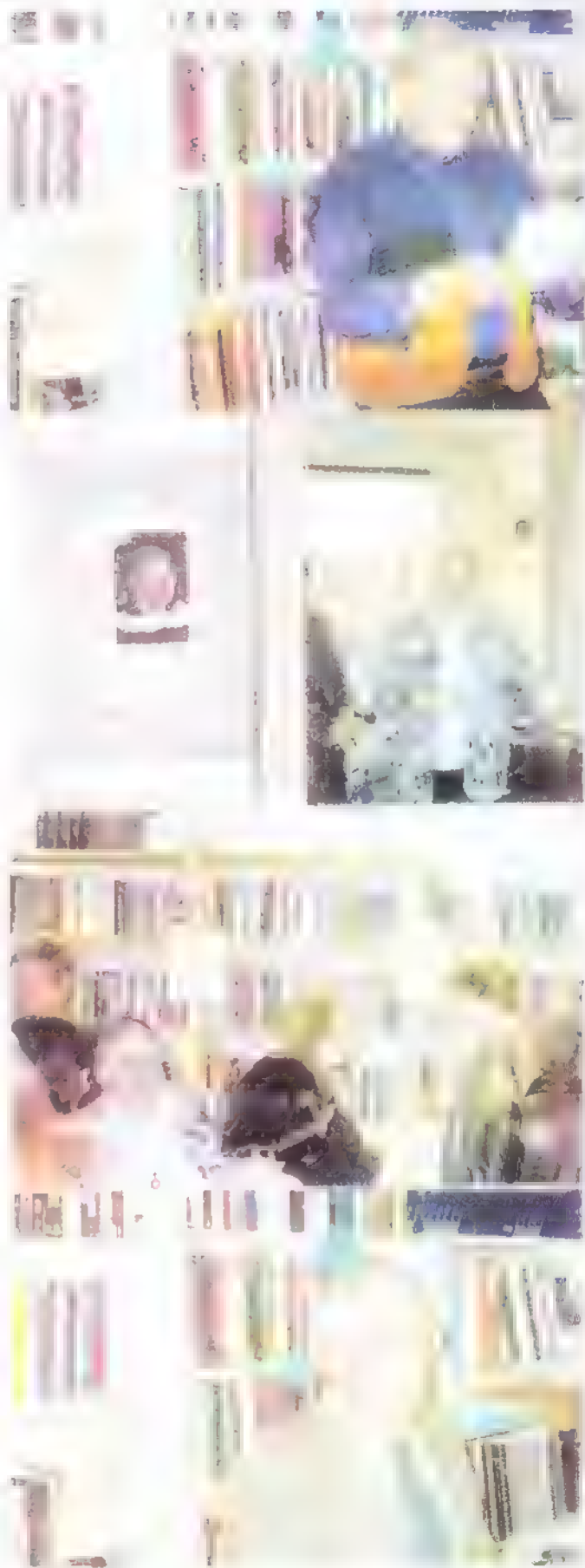
On October 21, friends and acquaintances of Thomas Edge gathered at HIV Edmonton to dedicate the Tom Edge Resource Centre. The resource centre is an important addition to the gay and lesbian community of Edmonton, as it provides a plethora of information on a large variety of sexuality issues.

The centre is made even more valuable with the large donation of books from the personal library of Sheryl Anne McInnes, who passed away in 1998. The collection of books provides information on several different levels, focussing on topics of sexuality pertaining to the gay, lesbian and transgender community. There is also a large portion of books dedicated to queer history. The donation of books provides a constant reminder of Sheryl and her important role as a feminist lesbian activist. The books were lovingly donated to the centre by Sheryl's same-sex spouse Maurcen Irwin.

The resource centre was made possible through a donation from Tom Edge prior to his death in 1991. The centre is now named in his memory. Many people remember Thomas A. Edge in several different ways and environments. In 1973, he began working at Athabasca University as Information Processor for the library. He eventually became the librarian, overseeing a large staff of people. As time went by, Tom's role at the University became one of great importance to the growth of the library. His ideas and concepts went a long way in helping to make the library what it is today.

The Tom Edge Resource Centre and the donation of books from the collection of Sheryl Anne McInnes provides the city of Edmonton and its surrounding communities with a great asset. The centre is something that was needed in the community and will surely be a help to many people. Its name and contents have also provided people with a unique way to remember two of Edmonton's great citizens, Thomas A Edge and Sheryl Anne McInnes.

For more information on the Tom Edge Resource Centre and what it has to offer, please contact Heather at 488-5742, or visit the centre at HIV Edmonton, #600, 10242-105st



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Justice Kirby Speaks

The world's only openly gay justice of a court of final appeal broke his silence July 2 at a London conference on recognition of same-sex partnerships

Australian High Court Justice Michael Kirby came out in April by listing his male partner of 30 years in the 1999 edition of Who's Who In Australia, but had refused further comment.

Now, in a 30-page speech to Law Lords, senior international judges and other legal scholars, Kirby said, among much else: "The advent of the human genome project and the likelihood that, in

many cases at least, sexual orientation is genetically determined, make it totally unacceptable to impose upon those affected unreasonable legal discrimination or demands that they change. It was always unacceptable; but now no informed person has an excuse for blind prejudice and unreasonable conduct. If we are talking about the 'unnatural' demands that people deny their sexuality or try to change it if it is part of their nature are a good illustration of what is unnatural."

He also said: "People are not fools. Once they recognize the overwhelming commonalities of shared human experience, the alienation and demand for adherence to shame crumbles. Once they reflect upon the utter unreasonableness of insisting that homosexuals change their sexual orientation, or suppress and hide their emotions — something they could not demand of themselves — the irrational insistence and demand for legal sanctions tends to fade away. Once they know friends or family members are gay, the hatred tends to melt. In the wake of the changing social attitudes inevitably come changing laws: statutes made by parliaments as well as the common law made by judges."

What the Year 2,000 Could Be Like.

Your alarm clock rings on the first business day of the Year 2000, and you expect this day to be like any other. Always the worrywart, you're staying off of airplanes and you pulled your cash out of the bank, plus the IT department at your company solved the millennium problem

months ago. But if the public agencies in your area haven't addressed the Year 2000 glitch, you could be in for a surprise. The following is, of course, an absolute worst-case scenario, but parts of it could be coming to town near you and are based on actual fears expressed by agencies across the country.

7 a.m. You wake up and hop in the shower. You notice a funny smell. Obviously your local water agency's treatment facility didn't fix the millennium bug.

8 a.m. You head for the subway, only to find that Y2K snafus have halted trains for the day.

8:30 a.m. You return home to get your car and drive to work. Red lights are flashing at all of the intersections because the systems weren't Year 2000-compliant.

9 a.m. Somebody runs one of the flashing red lights in front of you, crashing into another car. You get out to call 9-1-1, but the emergency system doesn't work.

10 a.m. You finally get to work and have a meeting with partners in the new company you're starting. Unfortunately, the state has lost its records on incorporated companies and cannot process your request.

2 p.m. You head for the county hospital, where you've scheduled a minor surgery. Things are in disarray because medical devices have failed throughout the day.

4 p.m. The hospital, which has lost all of its appointments, finally admits you. An embedded chip in the elevator fails, and the assistants must drag you and your gurney up the stairs.

7 p.m. You go home to call a friend and complain about your day, but the telephone line is dead because the company hasn't tackled the Year 2000 glitch. But then again, maybe you won't experience any of it. If your electric company isn't Year 2000-compliant, you might sleep through your alarm.

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You and Your Funny Bone..:)

They died in the Service

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Johnny was staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. The seven-year-old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the boy, and said quietly, "Good morning son."

"Good morning pastor" replied the young man, focused on the plaque. "Sir, what is this?" Johnny asked. "Well son, these are all the people who have died in the service," replied the pastor. Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Johnny's voice barely broke the silence when he asked quietly, "Which one sir, the 8:30 or the 10:30 service?"

Hello! Welcome to the Psychiatric Hotline!

If you are Obsessive-Compulsive, press 1 repeatedly

If you are Codependent, please ask someone to press 2 for you

If you have Multiple Personalities, press 3, 4, 5, and 6.

If you are Paranoid, we know who you are. Stay on the line so we can trace your call

If you are Delusional, press 7, and your call will be transferred to the Mother Ship

If you are Schizophrenic, listen carefully, and a small voice will tell you which

number to press

If you are Dyslexic, press 969696969696

If you have a Nervous Disorder, please fidget with the Pound Button until a representative comes on the line

If you have Amnesia, press 8 and state your name, address, phone number, date of birth, social security number, and your mother's and grandmother's maiden names

If you have short-term Memory Loss, please try your call again later

If you have Low Self-Esteem, just hang up. None of our representatives would talk to someone like you!

A Wet Rabbit...

A woman walks into a vet's waiting room. She's dragging a wet rabbit on a leash. The rabbit does NOT want to be there. "Sit, Fluffy," she says. Fluffy glares at her, and sopping wet, jumps up on another customer's lap, getting water all over him.

"I said SIT, now there's a good Fluffy," says the woman, slightly embarrassed. Fluffy, wet already, squats in the middle of the room and pees.

The woman, mortally embarrassed, shouts, "Goddamn it Fluffy, will you be good?!" Fluffy then starts a fight with a Doberman and pursues it out of the office. As the woman leaves to go after it, she turns to the rest of the

flabbergasted customers and says, "Pardon me, I've just washed my hare, and can't do a thing with it!"

How Bad Is It?

A distraught patient phoned her doctor's office. Was it true, the woman wanted to know, that the medication the doctor had prescribed was for the rest of her life? She was told that it was. There was a moment of silence before the woman continued, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious my condition is. This prescription is marked "NO REFILLS."

Tax Deduction

A little boy, who wanted \$100.00 very badly, prayed for two weeks but nothing happened. Then he decided to write GOD a letter requesting \$100.00.

When the postal authorities received the letter to GOD, Canada, they decided to send it to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister was so impressed, touched, and amused that he instructed his secretary to send the boy \$5.00. Mr. Chretien thought that this would appear to be a lot of money to the little boy. The little boy was delighted with the \$5.00 and immediately sat down to write a thank you note to GOD that read "Dear God, Thank you very much for sending me the money. However, I noticed that for some reason you had to send it through Ottawa, and, as usual, those JERKS deducted \$95.00 for taxes!"

My son's choking! He swallowed a quarter!

One day, at a local buffet, a

man suddenly called out, "My son's choking! He swallowed a quarter! Help! Please, anyone! Help! A man from a nearby table stood up and announced that he was quite experienced at this sort of thing. He stepped over with almost no look of concern at all, wrapped his arms around the boy, and squeezed. Out popped the quarter. The man then went back to his table as though nothing had happened. "Thank you! Thank you!" the father cried. "Are you a paramedic?" "No," replied the man. "I work for Revenue Canada."

Whisky and Worms

A professor of chemistry wanted to teach his 5th grade class a lesson about the evils of liquor, so he produced an experiment that involved a glass of water, a glass of whiskey, and two worms. "Now, class. Observe closely the worms," said the professor putting a worm first into the water. The worm in the water writhed about, happy as a worm in water could be. The second worm, he put into the whiskey. It writhed painfully, and quickly sank to the bottom, dead as a doornail. "Now, what lesson can we derive from this experiment?" the professor asked. Johnny, who naturally sits in back, raised his hand and wisely, responded, "Drink whiskey and you won't get worms."

Hey, Who's That?

Whilst enjoying a drink with a friend one night, this guy decides to try his luck with an attractive young girl sitting alone by the bar. To his surprise, she asks him to

join her for a drink and eventually asks him if he'd like to come back to her place

The pair jump into a taxi and as soon as they get back to her flat they dive onto the bed and spend the night hard at it. Finally, the spent young guy rolls over, pulls out a cigarette from his jeans and searches for his lighter. Unable to find it, he asks the girl if she has one at hand. "There might be some matches in the top drawer," she replies. Opening the drawer of the bedside table, he finds a box of matches sitting neatly on top of a framed picture of another man. Naturally, the guy begins to worry. "Is this your husband?" he inquires nervously. "No, silly," she replies, snuggling up to him. "Your boyfriend then?" "No, don't be daft," she says, nibbling away at his ear. "Well, who is he then?" demands the bewildered guy. Calmly, the girl takes a match, strikes it across the side of her face and replies, "That's me before the operation."

When I grow up... & get released???

Dr. Leroy, the head psychiatrist at the local mental hospital, is examining patients to see if they're cured and ready to re-enter society. "So, Mr. Clark," the doctor says to one of his patients. "I see by your chart that you've been recommended for dismissal. Do you have any idea what you might do once you're released?"

The patient thinks for a moment, then replies,

"Well, I went to school for mechanical engineering. That's still a good field, good money there. But on the other hand, I thought I might write a book about my experience here in the hospital, what it's like to be a patient here. People might be interested in reading a book like that. In addition, I thought I might go back to college and study art history, which I've grown interested in lately."

Dr. Leroy nods and says, "Yes, those all sound like intriguing possibilities." The patient replies, "And the best part is, in my spare time, I can go on being a teapot."

Attention All

There was a husband and his wife sitting next to a drunk in a bar. Suddenly the drunk stands up and yells, "ATTENTION ALL" and farts loudly. The wife is extremely embarrassed, and the husband looks at the drunk and says "Excuse me, you just farted in front of my wife." The drunk replies, "I'm sorry, I didn't know it was her turn."

Cooking

Two confirmed bachelors sat talking, their conversation drifted from politics to cooking. "I got a cookbook once," said one, "but I could never do anything with it." "Too much fancy work in it, eh?" asked the other. "You said it. Every one of the recipes began the same way - 'Take a clean dish'."

Don't look any horse in the mouth...

The story is told of a day when Queen Elizabeth had the Duke of Edinburgh over for a cup of tea. The conversation turned equestrian and the Queen was telling the Duke about her

new prize horse. After a spell of ranting and raving over this horse the Duke said, "Well, then, let's see this fine animal!"

So the Queen and the Duke went over to the stables to admire the horse. At one point the Queen walked around the horse, just as it let out an earth trembling belch, with a smell that... let's just say it would take a few boxes of tic-tacks for this one. The Queen turned a bit red and said, "Oh, I am terribly sorry about that!"


"Oh, that's quite alright," the Duke replied, "I had thought it was the horse!"

First-Aid

"How come you're late?" asks the bartender as the blonde waitress walks in the door.

"It was awful," she explains. "I was walking down Elm Street and there was this terrible accident. A man was lying in the middle of the street, he was thrown from his car. His leg was broken, his skull was fractured, and there was blood everywhere. Thank God I took that first-aid course; all my training came back to me in a minute." "What did you do?" asks the bartender. "I sat down and put my head between my knees to keep from fainting!"

On the Dark



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New Calendar Features Saskatchewan Nude Beaches (Gasp!)

By Rover

Edmonton-based Over-Time Productions continues its foray in the creative arts with the release of "On The Saskatchewan River 2000", a calendar of black-and-white photography by Saskatoon photographer Dieter Braun. This is a second outing for Dieter Braun who released his first calendar, "Cranberry Flats" two years ago. This time around, he teamed up with Over-Time Productions' Joe Achemichuk to promote his latest calendar in Alberta. Says Braun, "Most Albertans have a preconceived notion of Saskatchewan as being Alberta's boring neighbour". He laughs, "I think this calendar will change a few people's minds". He may be right since "On The Saskatchewan River 2000" features none other than the Saskatoon area's two nude beaches, Cranberry Flats and Bare-ass Beach. Some of the photos range from

women enjoying a sunset on the riverfront, to one nude of a guy leaping though the air in a dancer-like pose to catch a football, or as Braun puts it, "there's something in this calendar for everyone!" Braun adds, "Actually, only part of Cranberry Flats is nude with the rest of the beach attracting people with clothes! Both of these beaches have been around for at least 25 years although they remain one of Saskatoon's best kept secrets."

Braun's concept for "On The Saskatchewan River 2000" is predominantly about "people enjoying the riverbank". He adds, "I wanted the calendar to remind people about the beauty of our riverbank. We're really lucky here in Saskatoon to have some great beaches 10 minutes from Saskatoon. Not only are they so close, but they're extremely clean and void of crowd, litter etc., the kind of stuff that you'd find at busier beaches". Although much of Braun's

calendar includes photos taken at the aforementioned beaches, the calendar includes a wide range of photos from sandcastles, landscape and other portraits taken at various spots along the riverbank. Braun adds, "Some of these photos were fairly difficult to get. For example, the one photo with the guy catching a football, took about 40

tries to get it right"

Braun plans to have the calendar available in many of the locally owned bookstores and retail shops in Saskatoon. Achemichuk at Over-Time Productions says the calendar will be made available at this year's Loud and Queer Festival on November 5-6 in Edmonton with other locations to follow in the near future. Also calendars can be available through email: hunnybunny111@hotmail.com



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Testing a Vaccine

CDC Supports Thai Health Officials and VaxGen in Collaborative Effort

It is estimated that over 30 million individuals worldwide are infected with HIV—the vast majority of whom live in the developing world

One country in particular, Thailand, has experienced a rapidly escalating and severe HIV epidemic since 1988. Among the 60 million inhabitants of Thailand, as many as 800,000 people are currently believed to be living with HIV. Despite innovative and persistent prevention efforts, HIV continues to spread rapidly, particularly among Thailand's population of injection drug users (IDUs). Methadone treatment, education and counseling on HIV prevention, and easy access to sterile needles have certainly helped to slow the epidemic. Yet, among IDUs in Bangkok, 6% continue to become infected each year. In addition to being one of the nations most severely affected by HIV, Thailand has emerged as one of the nations most committed to ending its toll. To address the urgent need for an HIV vaccine, Thai officials have been working with the World Health Organization, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), the Government of Japan, the

U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), the U.S. Department of Defense, various universities, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) since 1991 to prepare for HIV vaccine efficacy trials. In February 1999, Thailand became the first developing nation to announce a Phase III vaccine field trial. A Phase III trial is done to determine if a vaccine is effective in protecting against infection or disease and is an important step in the evaluation process leading to licensure.

AIDSVAX Phase III trial in Thailand

As part of the Thai National Plan for HIV vaccine research, the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) is leading the 3-year collaborative research trial to evaluate the ability of AIDSVAX to prevent HIV infection among uninfected IDUs in Bangkok, Thailand. AIDSVAX was developed by VaxGen, a U.S. vaccine developer. BMA is conducting the trial in conjunction with VaxGen, the Mahidol University Faculty of Tropical Medicine in Bangkok, and the HIV/AIDS Collaboration (a long-standing research collaboration between the Thai Ministry of Public Health and CDC). The trial is being conducted among uninfected IDUs

attending 17 drug treatment clinics in Bangkok. The design is a randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled trial in which half of the 2,500 volunteers receive the AIDSVAX vaccine and the other half receive placebo. Participants that do not receive the vaccine. Neither the researchers nor the participants know which participants are in each half of the trial. To guard against the relaxation of protective behaviors, all participants receive extensive counseling on how to protect themselves against HIV infection, as well as explicit warnings that this vaccine may not protect them from infection. To further ensure that the participants are not inadvertently placed at risk, the trial design, as all procedures, protocols, recruitment and selection, have received a scientific and ethics review by Institutional Review Boards and ethics committees of the agencies, both the U.S. government and the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS.

About AIDSVAX

AIDSVAX is a vaccine, made up of gp120, composed of gp120 found on the outer surface of two strains of HIV. A version of the vaccine was tested in Thailand designed to elicit antibodies to gp120 B and E, the surface proteins of HIV most common in East Asia and the Pacific Rim.

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VaxGen is currently evaluating another version of AIDSVAX designed to protect against strains common in North America among 5,000 volunteers in multiple sites throughout the United States. Thai health officials played a leading role in acknowledging the critical need for a vaccine designed for use in Thailand to protect against strains of both subtypes B and E. Early reports from several smaller trials of AIDSVAX in Thailand and the United States, involving about 2,000 persons, have shown the vaccine to be safe and capable of inducing antibodies against these strains of HIV.

U.S. Vaccine Research

Although AIDSVAX is the first vaccine to move to Phase III trials in a developing country, as well as in the United States, it is only one of a series of vaccines that are in various stages of the development process.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is the agency responsible for coordinating the simultaneous evaluation of multiple vaccine candidates in the United States.

CDC's Role in Vaccine Research and Evaluation

Maintaining Progress in Prevention as We Strive for New Solutions

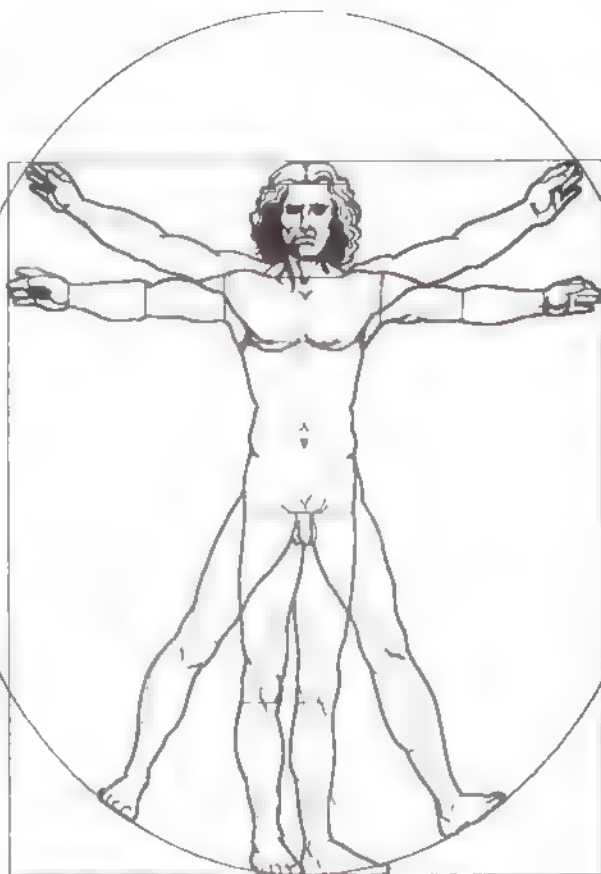
As we work toward this goal through this and other vaccine trials, it is critical that we not endanger progress already made in HIV prevention and that neither individuals involved in nor those outside of studies abandon safer sex and drug-related behaviors proven to

Since 1995, this collaboration has involved a range of activities, including measuring the level of new infections in Thailand, identifying a group of individuals who are willing to participate in a trial and can be followed over time to evaluate risk behaviors and infection, and working with the community to build the understanding and support necessary to implement the trial. Second, CDC has worked, and will continue to work, with Thai health officials and VaxGen to ensure that individuals in the trial receive appropriate risk-reduction counseling and are fully educated about how the trial works, the potential risks and benefits of participation, and the need for maintaining good behavioral risk-reduction practices during the trial.

For example, as the trial proceeds, CDC will evaluate the impact of the trial on both participant and community attitudes and behaviors. This information will be critical not only to this community, but also

to the future evaluation and implementation of vaccine strategies. CDC is not providing direct financial support for this trial but will provide logistical, laboratory, and data analysis support throughout the trial.

CDC hopes that this and other vaccine trials underway will identify an HIV vaccine to help end this epidemic. Until such a solution is available, we must continue to reinforce the already proven behavioral and biomedical methods of HIV prevention.



CDC is the United States' lead federal agency for prevention, including HIV prevention. CDC has nearly two decades of experience in designing and evaluating programs to reduce the spread of HIV among populations at risk. Additionally, the agency has a long history of vaccine development and evaluation with other diseases (measles, hepatitis B, and polio). CDC shares the ultimate goal of all of those working to stop the HIV and AIDS epidemic—a vaccine to prevent infection.

prevent infection.

CDC's Role in the Thailand Trial

CDC's primary role in the Thailand trial is two-fold. First, continuing a longstanding research collaboration, CDC has worked closely with the Thai government for several years to help them prepare to implement vaccine studies.

Building a Dam

Continued from page 32

beavers — be aware I am sending a copy of your dam letter and this response to PETA. If your dam department seriously finds all dams of this nature inherently hazardous and truly will not permit their existence in this State — I seriously hope you are not selectively enforcing this dam policy — or once again both I and the Spring Pond Beavers will scream prejudice!

In my humble opinion, the Spring Pond Beavers have a right to build their unauthorized dams as long as the sky is blue, the grass is green and water flows downstream. They have more dam right than I do to live and enjoy Spring Pond. If the Department of Natural Resources and *Environmental Protection* lives up to its name, it should protect the natural resources (Beavers) and the environment (Beavers' Dams).

So, as far as the beavers and I are concerned, this dam case can be referred for more elevated enforcement action right now. Why wait until 1/31/98? The Spring Pond Beavers may be under the dam ice then and there will be no way for you or your dam staff to contact/harass them then.

In conclusion, I would like to bring to your attention a real environmental quality (health) problem in the area. It is the bears.

Bears are actually defecating in our woods. I definitely believe you should be persecuting the defecating bears and leave the beavers alone. If you are going to investigate the beaver dam, watch your step! (The bears are not careful where they dump!)

Being unable to comply with your dam request, and being unable to contact you on your dam answering machine, I am sending this response to your dam office via another government organization — the dam USPS. Maybe, someday, it will get there.

Sincerely, Stephen L. Svedten

GLAADAlert

1. Money Matters: CNNfn Explores Lesbian and Gay Financial Planning
2. MTV Fights for Education and Acceptance
3. A. Magazine's Inclusive Top 100
4. Exploring Internet Hate on Jenny Jones

Money Matters: CNNfn Explores Lesbian and Gay Financial Planning

On Oct. 11, the interactive arm of Cable News Network Financial Network (CNNfn) published a feature discussing the options and pitfalls lesbian and gay couples face in their long-term financial planning, given the inability of gay couples to legally marry. In interviews with John Lewis, marketing manager for MetLife Securities, Inc., Tom Swift, vice president of the Horton Investment Advisory Group, and Jeffrey Newman, president and chief operating officer of the Gay Financial Network, CNNfn staff writer Shelly K. Schwartz explores the options available to same-sex couples in protecting their assets and long-term financial security.

Among the suggestions offered by

these financial experts: recognize that you'll need to place added emphasis on retirement savings; make sure you and your partner have a life insurance policy and that you've named each other as the beneficiary; and make sure you are both protected through durable powers of attorney, health care powers of attorney, wills and trusts, and other ways to construct strong legal bonds between partners.

Mainstream media stories dealing comprehensively with financial planning issues for the lesbian and gay community are rare. Please thank CNNfn for this vital and informative feature.

MTV Fights for Education and Acceptance

On Oct. 3, MTV premiered a public service announcement (PSA) produced by the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). The PSA, which begins with screen text reading "Fighting Words," shifts to a series of young men menacingly approaching the screen, shouting "That's so gay!", "Fag!", "You're a queer, aren't you?", "Queer!" and "Faggot!" The camera shifts to Judy Shepard, standing in a classroom. "The next time you say these things," she implores, "think about what they really mean." The screen then shows a picture of Matthew Shepard, followed by the words "Murdered Because He Was Gay," and closing with the simple words, "End Hate."

The PSA, adopted by MTV as part of its ongoing "Fight For Your Rights: Take a Stand Against Violence"

Continued on page 44

Becoming Ourselves:

Intrapersonals



By Shawn Mooney

One lonely night not long ago I arranged a date—at the last minute and against my better judgment. As I waited for him to arrive, I tidied up my living room. Illuminated it with candles. Lit incense, and cranked Ella on the stereo. Sitting with one eye cocked out the window for my gentleman caller. I sank into the comfort of my neat, soft-lit, aromatic and ambient living space. Wow, I thought, I feel fabulous. I wondered, why do I create a soothing atmosphere only when expecting to entertain another man? Hmm...

My ruminations on the question could have been self-critical, but—drenched as I was in Ella and incense—I reflected from a deeper place, watching less and less for my date's arrival. Eventually, I realized he was not showing, that I'd been stood up. Uncharacteristically serene, I viewed this as a message from the universe: I enjoyed my own space for the rest of the evening, dreamily content

I had stumbled into my first

date with the Boyfriend Within

In a new book, *Finding The Boyfriend Within: A Practical Guide for Tapping Into Your Own Source of Love, Happiness and Respect*, Brad Gooch calls on gay men to balance our quest for sex and/or romance with an inner fund of love and nurturing. He calls this intrapsychic source the Boyfriend Within. Ultimately, Gooch challenges us to stop using sex and love as distraction; wholeness comes by treating ourselves the way we yearn some Mr. Right would treat us.

Finding The Boyfriend Within is a good introduction to the queer voyage of self-discovery and inner lovingkindness. I was, however, sometimes annoyed by the author's off-hand tone: Gooch seems almost embarrassed to be advocating such a deep relationship with the self, overcompensating with superficial asides and repartee. Nonetheless, the clarion call—to romance ourselves from the inside out—is crucial.

As we develop a relationship with this inner boyfriend, we sort through the baggage that can wreak havoc in our interpersonal lives. Realizing that no one else but me completes myself, I begin to approach my dating life more holistically, stop expecting the men in my life to meet needs that can only be satisfied within.

So, how do you contact this

inner lover? Gooch provides a series of awareness exercises, inventories to help you take stock of your own stuff. Then he advocates an ongoing written Q&A with your Boyfriend Within. This may sound corny, but I urge you to give it a try. (Besides, think of the crazy things we do in pursuit of outer boyfriends.) As you begin to take responsibility for what might be screwing up or stalling your love life, dialogue on paper with the inside beau about it. Write your questions down and let him answer. You'll be surprised at what spills onto the page when you open to his voice. (Don't force his responses, just let them flow—this may involve pausing between sides of the conversation as you wait to 'hear' him.)

I recently began this dialogue with my Boyfriend Within in my journal, and the effect has been profound: when screwed up in my personal life, I now appeal to this inner beau—the part of me that encapsulates qualities I seek out in boyfriends. Feeling out of sorts about this or that guy in my life as I begin the conversation, soon that inner voice calms me down, helps me own the projections and move through or at least accept the confusion.

Who is this Boyfriend Within? As Gooch points out, he is that side of your self that manifests your deepest yearnings. Mine is turning out to be a sexy, no-nonsense dude who calls me on my shit, soothes me when I'm genuinely distressed and

nudges my heart open when I would just as soon shut down and protect myself. He seems to be part Gestalt therapist and part trickster—a cross between Fritz Perls and Peter Pan. That's my man. Your Inner Boyfriend will be idiosyncratically yours.

We gay men need each other—erotically, emotionally and spiritually. The more we accept and love ourselves, the richer our commingling. A quote by someone named Rannic (hanging on the wall at A Flash Of Insight on Whyte) says it best: *The arithmetic of love is unique: two halves don't make a whole—two wholes make a whole*.

Recommended Reading

Flood, Gregory. *I'm Looking For Mr. Right But I'll Settle For Mr. Right Away: AIDS, True Love, the Perils of Safe Sex, and other Spiritual Concerns of the Gay Male*.

Gooch, Brad. *Finding The Boyfriend Within: A Practical Guide for Tapping Into Your Own Source of Love, Happiness and Respect*.

Moore, Thomas. *SoulMates*.

(Shawn Mooney is a psychotherapist in private practice in Edmonton. You can reach Shawn at 988-2 7 4 1, mooneys@telusplanet.net, or on the Web at www.telusplanet.net/public/mooneys.)

GLAADAlert

Continued from page 42

campaign, is currently airing at least six times a day in primetime slots, and is reaching an estimated 30 to 45 million people per week. It represents an extraordinary opportunity to reach out to the very youth targeted by messages saying it's alright to discriminate and harass lesbian and gay men. The PSA shows in no uncertain terms the harm wrought on real people by such hateful words. MTV is to be applauded for this important contribution to the education of all our youth.

A. Magazine's Inclusive Top 100

In its October/November issue, which also serves as its 10th Anniversary issue, A. Magazine spotlights 100 of the most influential Asian-Americans of the decade. Among this group are several out lesbians and gay men, including National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Policy Institute Director Urvashi Vaid, Award winning journalist and "Ms. Magazine" contributing editor Helen Zia, East West Players Producing Director Tim Dang, "Amerasia Journal" and "Asian American Sexualities" editor Russell

Leong and former supermodel Jenny Shimizu.

While some profiles don't mention sexual orientation, the magazine does not shy away from it either. In her profile, Shimizu told A. Magazine, "...people still come up and tell me how my being Asian American, gay and in the spotlight helped them identify with someone."

Many publications have ignored the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in their year-, decade- or century-in-review issues, but A. Magazine demonstrates the rich diversity of our community by profiling these outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions over the last ten years. Please congratulate A. Magazine for letting the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community be part of its celebration.

Exploring Internet Hate on Jenny Jones

On Oct. 4, The Jenny Jones Show took an hour-long look at hate on the Internet. One of the segments focused attention on the "God Hates Fags" web site developed by Fred Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church, and featured two members of the Phelps family.

Hate on the Internet is a very important issue, and Jones deserves thanks for exposing her audience to the impact of such unregulated hate speech on all minorities - racial, ethnic, religious and sexual. However, as good a job as Jones and her audience did in exposing the hatred and prejudice of the Phelps family, it is disconcerting that they were given the forum to spread their anti-gay rhetoric in the first place. Internet hate can and should be covered without giving a prominent platform to homophobic rhetoric such as that of the Phelps family.

Please write to The Jenny Jones Show. Commend her for teaching her audience about the impact of hate speech on the Internet, and explain that such education does not require that she provide a platform for the spreading of the very hatred she condemns.

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JUST FRIENDS

Box 1997: 24, 5'8", 135lb, black hair, brown eyes. I like listening to music, mostly alternative and punk. I'm a hockey and football fan and I like to hang out. Not into the scene and I have no gay friends. I'm on the system looking for someone to talk to and hang out with. Start off as just friends and if other things develop then great, if not, well that's good too.

Box 2063: Fairly new to the city, currently have a boyfriend. Late 20's, he's early 30's. I'm a big boy, he's a little boy. We're like Fred Flinstone and Barney Rubble. We're looking for other couples or singles to get together and have some fun with, maybe go out to the bar. We're not too familiar with the area and just looking for fun.

Box 2130: 20, sexy, good looking, hazel eyes, 6'3", 140lb, nice person. I'd like to find someone who can do lots of things: downhill skiing, go out dancing, talk about Madonna if they want to, do the fun casual things that friends do.

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS

Box 1923: Dave, 18, student, looking to meet someone who knows how to treat their significant others. I enjoy snowboarding, listening to music, mostly punk and having fun. I like to go the bar, I like raving. I'm pretty easy going. Under 25 please.

Box 1947: Placed this ad to find Mr. Right, someone to be monogamous, settle down into a one-on-one relationship. Early 40's and think it's time for me to find someone to settle

down with. Sincere, honest, not into the bar scene, just want to find a decent gay male out there who wants a long term relationship.

Box 1956: Single, 32, sensitive male, slim, smooth, 140lb, brown hair and eyes, about 5'10". Looking for a long term relationship with the right guy someone under 35. Things I don't like are: druggies, a-h's, head games and lars. Things that interest me are the outdoors, camping, dancing, computers, reading. Staying home with the boyfriend would be nice.

Box 1977: I believe all races and religions are unique and should be respected. I like music, dance, art, nature, walks, wine, quality food, travel, yoga, other cultures and people, of course. I dislike smoke, drugs, bitchiness and intolerance. I'm an easy-going but responsible guy. Brown skinned, with a pleasant personality. I'm sincerely looking for a soul mate. If you're looking for a one night stand or phone sex, don't waste time. Peace.

Box 2070: 21, white male, blond hair, blue eyes interested in a long term relationship. I live out of town, so encounters will include travel. I'm interested in guys around my own age, 18-25.

Box 2117: Here's the stats: I'm 32, not too shabby looking, professionally employed. I consider myself a masculine yet sensitive. I have old fashion values like honesty, loyalty and commitment. I'm interested in meeting people around my own age, are down to earth, and share common values. I'm looking for friendship and possibly more.

Box 2123: Simon, 19, gay, white male. I'm looking for friends or Mr. Right, I'm starting to believe he's not out there. Not that really I believe that everyone has an individual that's ideal for them, but if there's anything that's relatively close I wouldn't mind finding him. I like to do the usual, I'm basically just trying to find someone, getting out of the bar scene. Getting sick of it and I would like something different in my life.

Box 2126: Giant, looking for a long term relationship. I stand 6'1", 140-150lb, dark hair and eyes, and I'm very trendy. I would say I'm just looking for another gay male, 24 years old.

CASUAL ENCOUNTERS

Box 1928: 38 year old straight looking and acting male, financially and emotionally secure. 6', 190lb, broad shoulders, considered very good-looking. Looking for other emotionally mature, good looking guys. In good shape.

Box 1939: Tied I don't know what to say or how to say it. All I know is I'll be around the corner and I'm looking to meet up with someone who's warm and likes to snuggle. If you're interested in doing all sorts of different things and sitting by a nice warm fireplace and drinking wine, give me a call. I'm blond, 6'1", medium build, tall, told I'm quite nice to look at.

Box 1951: Hit, 20, Spanish-Lebanese guy looking for other guys to talk to and get-together with.

Box 1989: Mid-30's white male, interested in meeting older guys 50+ for oral service. Reciprocal is not necessary.

Box 2013: Looking for any hot young guys 22 and under that want to get together on a casual basis, maybe more. 5'11", 160lb, slim build, looking for a good time.

Box 2046: Greg, very horny 40 year old bottom, 5'8", 150lb, shoulder-length, light brown hair. Hazel green eyes, multi-tatto, toned body, smooth body and a smooth, round fuckable ass. 6' 1/2

uncut, shaved cock and balls, shaved hole. I loved sucking, getting sucked, loved getting sucked, and a few other possibilities.

Box 2059: 37, 8 inches and thick very big dick. I'm looking for university students, high school guys over 18 years old, and especially if you're an Oriental guy, Filipino boy or a Black guy who has a very toned body, small waist and very smooth chest. I live on the south side, can entertain.

Box 2080: Richard, young 52 year old, married, 5'10", 180lb, 6-1/2" out, keep fit, nice guy with a great sense of humor. Really heavy into masturbation while watching video's or magazines. I'd like to get together with a younger male to share these experiences. I can perform oral and would be a good teacher if you so desire. Discretion is a must and I cannot entertain.

Box 2095: Boomer 23, very hot, and looking to have a good time.

Box 2131: Tall, sexy, good-looking 20 year old, hazel eyes, 6'3", 140lb, love Madonna, love horses and cats. I like going places and seeing new sights around the city, doing new stuff, experimenting, going out dancing. I like fashion and make-up. I drink casually.

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LEATHER & SM

Box 2051: Dominant guy, new in town, looking for a fellow who needs hard-core training. Prefer someone who's well built and in shape, but I also coach physical training. You're between 25-35 and looking for more than a one night stand. Seasoned or beginners, ok. 32, 5'11", 155lb, swimmers build, muscular, ex-military triathlon athlete. Safe and comfortable and very sane. I'm an experienced no-nonsense master. I've owned and trained 24/7 slaves before. This could be the beginning of a wild adventure for both of us.

BEARS, BIG MEN & THEIR ADMIRERS

Box 2037: Husky, horny, safe, clean, discreet bear wanting to meet other bears or their admirers. Hinton area. 240lb plus, at least and hairy.

Box 2038: Male looking for young male between 18-23 years old, someone I can spot, if you're interested in a chubby, husky gay male, get back.

TRANSGENDER

Box 1949: Chantal, 28, 5'9", 145lb, long, curly, brown hair, blue/green eyes looking for an open-minded and understanding gentleman while I'm in town. I work out of town a lot.

Box 1976: Late 30's, TV, love to dress very slutty, high heels, lingerie, holes, sexy outfits, a lot of make-up.

long rolls. And when I dress like that I like to perform like a slut. My birthday is week before Halloween and I'm looking for is to organize a party, and orgy with a bunch of TV's, cross-dressers and males, females, couples, anyone who enjoys a transgender lifestyle. I'm also looking for a male to take me to the Roost or Flurbbacks on Halloween.

Box 2015: 24 year old cross dresser is looking for someone to have a wonderful time with this evening. I'm not passable, 6', 160lb, looking for a great time. Willing to do and try anything. Willing to be your little girl.

Box 2020: Jacqueline, transsexual, 5'4", petite, brownish/blond hair, brown eyes, 130lb, considered attractive, just looking to meet some muscular well-tuned men out there who are into transsexuals.

Box 2024: David, quite healthy and happy living in the West Edmonton area and what would make my life even better is if I had a gentleman that would pay me visits. I have chosen this section because of my physical make-up. This is a discreet side of my personality at my private home, so you would be chosen very carefully, for discretion is a must.

Box 2026: Scott, 34, bi-curious, 5'2", 115lb, brown hair, hazel eyes, what I'm looking for my first experience is a transsexual, transvestite or very passive cross-dresser for some fun and good times.

Box 2031: Jay, 29, married, bi cross-dresser, submissive. Looking for a dominant transvestite, transsexual or male to have some fun with during the day or week. I like to dress up and have a good time.

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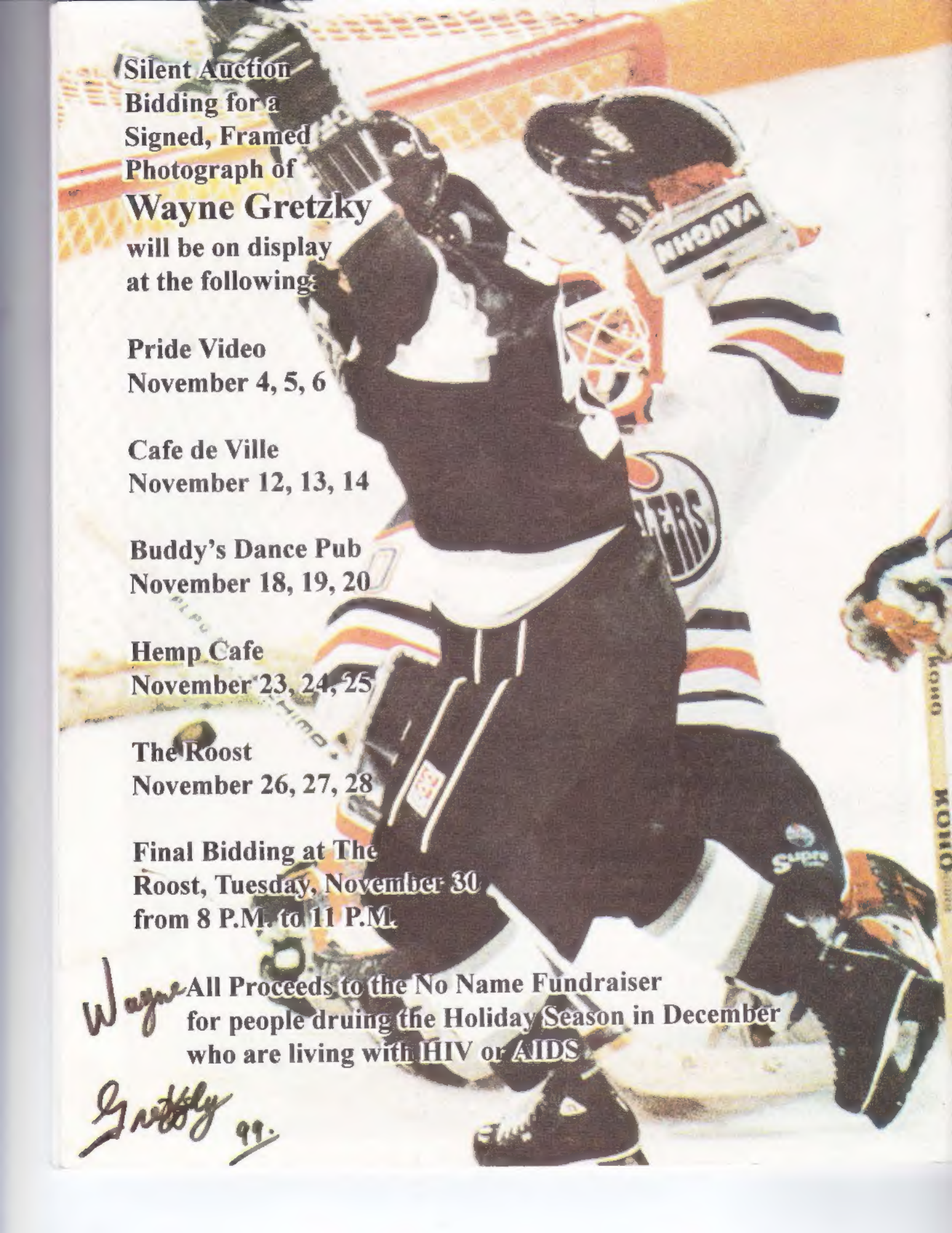
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